FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

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REPORT ON SOVIET BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS 'CRUDE FABRICATION'

LD311416Y Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["Familiar Handwriting"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The British news agency REUTER, referring to an anonymous Western intelligence service, has circulated a report alleging that work is under way in the Soviet Union to develop certain "terrible" types of bacteriological weapons and to evolve no less "terrible" microbes for military purposes.

This fabrication is so crude and so absurd that it could well be ignored. It is well known that the Soviet Union, which consistently comes out for curbing the arms race and for banning all types of mass-destruction weapons, has signed the convention banning the development, manufacture and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and providing for the destruction of these weapons, which was concluded at the initiative of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. It is also well known that the USSR always faithfully and precisely observes its international commitments in accordance with their letter and spirit.

But why did certain Western circles need to dish up this crude and vicious fabrication to REUTER and, through it, to the English bourgeois press? Was it not done in order to increase the noise now being made over the mythical "Soviet menace", an invention which is used by the opponents of detente as a screen for stepping up the arms race and aggravating the international situation? That is precisely the way this fabrication is assessed by observers in Britain. As the MORNING STAR said today, and with good reason, that such inventions about the Soviet Union can be regarded only as attempts to justify the military build-up by the Western countries and the plans to manufacture and use the neutron bomb.

What is to be said in conclusion? A few days ago, the British press reported details about the British Foreign Office's top secret "misinformation department" which specialised in fabricating false rumours, inventions and other ideological subversion against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Official London hurried to assure that this department had been closed. But the report on the closure of the "misinformation department" is "highly exaggerated", to use Mark Twain's words. The handwriting of the authors of crazy inventions about "Soviet bacteriological weapons" looks very much like that of concotions which came only recently from the "misinformation department".

OPEC GENEVA MEETING DISCUSSES DROPPING DOLLAR AS PRICING UNIT

LD011820Y Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--The TASS economic commentator Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

The price of heavy crude is the official but not very likely the only subject of the "mini conference" of five members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), that opened today in Geneva. Although this meeting is passing in the traditional atmosphere of secrecy everything shows that the question of "trust" in the American dollar will be discussed at it in detail.

On Tuesday one of the participants in the meeting, Kuwait's Oil Minister Al-Kazimi, declared that OPEC had lost about 20 percent of its foreign currency earnings because of the lengthy drop in the exchange rate of the dollar--the principal currency in which prices of exported oil are calculated. He also clearly intimated to the United States the seriousness of the intention of oil exporting countries to switch to some other unit of calculation.

This unambiguous warning is becoming a real fact after the recent decision of the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Qatar to revalue their national currencies in respect of the dollar by 0.5-1.8 percent.

Still more important, these states have declared in favour of estimating oil prices in special drawing rights--a unit of account of the International Monetary Fund.

The attempts by some states in the Persian Gulf area to resist the dollar's diktat have been received by Washington with growing alarm. For the United States a switch in the estimation of the price of imported oil from the depreciating dollar to a more stable and broader basis would actually mean a growth of this price, and this in conditions when the dependence of the United States on imported oil is not lessening and when the fate of the President's energy programme remains undecided.

It is the opinion of the American press that the recent "working" visit to Riyadh by the U.S. Secretary of Energy James Schlesinger was devoted mainly to giving certain assurances to Saudi Arabia and talking it into persuading other Arab states of the Persian Gulf area at the forthcoming conference of the region's banking circles in Abu Dhabi to retain the dollar's privileged position. In return Washington promises Riyadh to grant its old wish--to supply it a number of "F-15" planes.

Clearly seen behind these promises is the true aim of American "oil" diplomacy--by way of a close alliance with the region's more reactionary forces to prevent oil exporting countries from independently disposing of their own natural resources.

HAIG, PERRY URGE INCREASED ARMS SPENDING AT NATO MEETING

LD011435Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[Text] Bonn, 30 January, TASS--A NATO military conference which included about 100 politicians, diplomats, generals, scientists and publicists from several NATO countries, has been held in Munich.

Gen A. Haig, supreme commander of NATO allied armed forces in Europe, insisted in his report, according to the newspaper DIE WELT, that West European NATO members "must further increase the effectiveness of their armed forces and increase their military budgets."

A demand for "the rationalization of efforts in the armament sphere", directed toward further development of the production of sophisticated weapons for NATO armies, was also heard in the speech of W. Perry, U.S. assistant defense secretary. Like Haig, he called for a "policy of consistently increasing military expenditure" within the framework of NATO.

M. Woerner, chairman of the Bundestag Defense Committee, again openly advocated the production of neutron bombs and cruise missiles and their deployment on West German territory.

UNITED STATES

NEUTRON BOMB DECISION TO SHOW WHITE HOUSE 'SINCERITY'

LD012339Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1657 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["The Pentagon Is Eager for the Neutron Bomb"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington--In setting course for the production of the death-dealing neutron weapon, the Pentagon fiercely opposes any attempt to prevent its creation and deployment. According to the New York TIMES, the U.S. military authority has demanded that the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency review its new report on the possible military and political consequences of deploying the neutron weapon. The report points out that putting neutron bombs in Europe could increase the danger of a nuclear war. The agency's conclusions annoyed the American militarists; they fear U.S. congressmen would listen to these conclusions and vote against appropriations to produce neutron bombs. Nor does the Pentagon like the fears expressed by the compilers of the report that the adoption of a decision to deploy the neutron weapon could have a negative influence on the Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

Using pressure, the Pentagon has succeeded in obtaining a postponement in passing the report to Congress for consideration. The report should have gone to the Capitol last week; now, Pentagon officials say, it will not arrive there before the end of February. It is noted here that the outcome of the clash between the Pentagon and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency will depend on what position the White House takes.

The forthcoming White House decision will show the sincerity of Washington's repeated declarations of its desire to limit the arms race, which is so dangerous to the cause of peace.

MORE MATERIAL ON VISITING SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION

'Renegades' Slander USSR

LD011426Y Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["In Whose Interests"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The attention of American official circles and the broad public these days is attracted by the visit to the United States by a delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. As reported, the head of the Soviet delegation Boris Ponomarev was received by the President of the United States, James Carter, who stressed during their conversation that the United States Government is interested in a further development of American-Soviet relations. Interviewed by a TASS correspondent, the secretary of state of the United States, Cyrus Vance, described the visit as very useful. Many prominent congressmen and other U.S. politicians note that the meetings with the Soviet members of parliament, the conversations and discussions with them, passing in a businesslike constructive atmosphere and concerning both important questions of bilateral relations and pressing international problems, facilitate better mutual understanding and are a contribution to the development of American-Soviet relations. Influential American press publications too are positively evaluating the visit by Soviet members of parliament to the United States.

The big attention shown in the United States to the visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation and the fact that this visit, as acknowledged by the American public, serves the cause of strengthening understanding between Washington and Moscow obviously goes against the grain of those circles in the United States which, contrary to the spirit of the time, strive to obstruct detente, to erect obstacles on the road of better American-Soviet relations. These circles doggedly try to belittle the importance of the visit by the Soviet parliamentarians and to discredit the constructive American-Soviet dialogue. In order to achieve their unseemly aims the enemies of detente again and again are trying to use all sorts of renegades--people without kith and kin.

This time again a handful of former Soviet citizens, from among those who are called "dissidents" in the West and have long made anti-Sovietism a source of income, was invited to a dinner on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the "Coalition for a Democratic Majority". Addressing the dinner, the speakers tried to outdo one another in slandering the USSR and its policy. They permitted themselves rude attacks against the Soviet members of parliament, and there was even an obviously provocative anti-Soviet proposal to set up a special "team" of anti-Soviet emigrees and send it along the route of the Soviet parliamentary delegation almost as "representatives of the Soviet people". Strange though it may seem, but some members of the American Congress, for instance Senator Moynihan, took part in this, mildly speaking, far-from-intelligent spectacle.

I would like to ask: Can it be that the people who, in an attempt to discredit the visit by Soviet parliamentarians and, apart from everything, acting contrary to elementary laws of hospitality, engineered this dinner for obvious anti-Soviet purposes do not understand that those whom they invited and lauded at this strange get-together do not represent anyone but themselves and strive only for a worsening of Soviet-American relations and a revival of the cold war? Indeed, things must be going bad with the American opponents of detente if in their attempts to impede a fruitful American-Soviet dialogue they cannot find anything better than to seek the "support" of renegades!

Ponomarev Discusses Issues

LD011832Y Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1, TASS--The manufacture of the neutron bomb and its deployment on the territory of European countries is an inadmissible thing. The neutron bomb is a new kind of barbarous nuclear weapon, which it is absolutely inadmissible to produce, stated the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities--one of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet--alternate member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU CC Boris Ponomarev, talking to the political commentator of the Soviet television and radio Valentin Zorin. The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet he heads is on an official visit in the USA at the invitation of the U.S. Congress.

We hope, Boris Ponomarev said, that we have to some extent convinced our American partners that there is no place on earth to new, particularly, the neutron weapons. [sentence as received] But we met in the Congress also such people who, however strange and inadmissible this looks to us, defended the usefulness of the neutron weapon. Touching on the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, the so-called SALT-2, Boris Ponomarev noted that an agreement on this matter would be of very great importance both for reducing a definite number of strategic offensive weapons and also as a fundamental advance towards the reduction of arms and armed forces in general.

We showed the American congressmen in great detail all the significance of this question. This is necessary because there are certain forces and circles in the USA which resist this very important agreement, needed by all mankind, Boris Ponomarev said.

Boris Ponomarev recalled that a USSR-USA agreement was reached in October 1977 about extinguising the Middle East conflict through negotiations at the Geneva conference. The Soviet side, he stressed, was prepared to do everything for resolving the Middle East conflict precisely in this way. Yet separate Egyptian-Israeli talks, Israeli-Egyptian talks emerged, and this was facilitated, as we see, by the U.S. administration. This is not a road that leads to a Middle-East settlement. The course of events demonstrates that nothing has come of these separate negotiations that would to any extent facilitate a political settlement in the Middle East on the basis of the well-known fair positions of the Soviet Union.

We explained to the American congressmen, Boris Ponomarev went on, that the Soviet Union did literally everything possible to prevent the conflict on the part of Somalia against Ethiopia. When the armed operations unfolded, the Soviet Union naturally helped the victim of aggression, that is Ethiopia, at the latter's request. But all the time and today the Soviet Union comes out for a settlement to be reached in that region by peaceful means, by political means. And I think there is every ground for that.

Delegation Visits UN

LD011944Y Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 1, TASS--The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet has today visited the United Nations. The delegation is led by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Boris Ponomarev. The delegation was received by the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

During the exchange of views on a number of world problems Kurt Waldheim noted the Soviet Union's major contribution to supporting U.S. activities and to the relaxation of world tensions. This is evident, he said, from the Soviet Union's numerous initiatives to bring about disarmament, to oppose colonialism and to consolidate peace.

Boris Ponomarev emphasized the U.N. role in working out and implementing decisions contributing to the relaxation of tension, the consolidation of peace and the solution of problems still creating tension in various parts of the world. There has never been and will never be a lack of effort on the part of the Soviet Union, he underlined, in solving such problems as achieving a settlement in the Middle East, in the Horn of Africa and in Cyprus.

The head of the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet emphasised that the Soviet Union attaches major importance to the coming special U.N. General Assembly session on disarmament in the hope that it will take effective measures against the arms race, including steps against the making of neutron weapons. The discussion proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

SIMULTANEOUS VISITS BY DAYAN, AS-SADAT 'DELIBERATE COINCIDENCE'

LD012030Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[From the "International Dairy" program with Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] The AFP correspondent reports from Washington that in diplomatic circles there it is being said that Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan will be in the United States at the same time as Egyptian President as-Sadat. Referring to reliable sources, AFP asserts that Dayan's visit was planned long ago but its precise date was fixed only in the last few days. The deliberate coincidence in the time of the visit of the Egyptian president and the Israeli foreign minister--the AFP report cannot be interpreted in any other way--can be evidence only of the fact that Washington intends to inform its Israeli ally on all aspects of the forthcoming talks with the Egyptian president in detail and without delay.

U.S. PLAN FOR GULF EMERGENCY FORCE CONDEMNED

LD011250Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Baghada, February 1, TASS--The Arab press strongly condemns the latest directive, issued by the U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown, concerning the use of American troops in the Persian Gulf zone in "an emergency situation".

According to the newspaper Washangton POST, in accordance with this directive in the U.S. Armed Forces it is planned to form a special task force, made of two divisions of ground troops and a division of Marines, with aviation attached, that can be at any moment airlifted to the Persian Gulf zone under the pretext of "defending" oil sources. Observers draw attention to the fact that the directive is directly linked with the U.S. attempts to impose upon Arab countries a capitulatory settlement of the Middle East problem through separate Israeli-Egyptian negotiations.

The Iraqi newspaper AL-JUMHURIYA points out that the Pentagon's aggressive intentions are a grave danger to the fate of the Arab peoples and the cause of world peace.

Kuwait, February 1, TASS--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-RAY AL-AMM writes that the U.S. threats against Persian Gulf countries pursue the aim of ruling out a possibility of Arab countries' new embargo on oil deliveries to the United States in case of an armed conflict between Arabs and Israel. All this testifies to the character of Washington's aggressive desires and the essence of "peace" the United States wants to impose upon the Middle East.

MATERIAL ON U.S. 'INTERFERENCE' IN OTHERS' AFFAIRS

Iranian Experiences

LD011656Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 0930 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Vera Lebedeva commentary]

[Text] You must have read in the papers and heard on the radio that a U.S. State Department statement has confirmed that the U.S. regards participation by communists in West European cabinets as undesirable.

Incidentally it should be said that the matter is not confined to the issuance of general statements. The U.S. now threatens to impose economic penalities on Italy, where the Social Democratic Party and some other organizations have alluded to the necessity of Communist participation in the government. France, whose Communist Party is also an influential political power, has been warned in this respect.

It is completely natural that political and social circles in European countries regard this kind of admonition by Washington as [word indistinct] interference in their internal affairs. Raymond Barre, the French prime minister, said in a French TV statement regards the U.S. State Department statement as incorrect. The French head of government confirmed tnat the French Government has no intention of discussing its internal affairs with any foreign country.

The U.S. State Department's statement has caused strong protests in Italy. It is interesting that in addition to Communists and Socialists, representatives of other parties including the Italian Christian Democrat Party criticize American threats against Italy.

In my view, this [word indistinct] of the U.S. to the sovereignty of the nations of the countries of Europe cannot be assessed otherwise. Meanwhile I wish to invite your attention to the fact that it is not only Europe where America shamelessly interferes in countries' internal affairs. Iranians through bitter experiences are fully aware of this. For example, we refer to the so-called missions of Arthur Milspough, the chief adviser on Iranian financial affairs. Milspough [words indistinct] influenced not only the running of financial affairs but the administration of the entire Iranian economy; his activity caused intense chaos in the country's economic affairs. Had this American not been expelled from Iran, there would have been grave consequences.

Or remember your nation's struggle to nationalize the oil industry. At that time, the imperialists did everything in their power to prevent implementation of this law. London and Washington openly threatened Iran. Western warships used to approach Iranian coasts in the Persian Gulf in what no doubt was a show of force.

The oil markets, which were in the hands of imperialist monopolies at the time, declared an embargo on nationalized Iranian oil. Inside Iran, agents of the CIA were active, busily paving the way for toppling Iranian Government, which was disliked by Washington.

Iranian newspapers recently said that the U.S. promised a loan to Iran in 1961 on the condition that Ali Amini, a person who was famous for supporting America, become prime minister.

(?This course of events) has now emerged in Italy. As we know, the U.S. threatens: If communists become members of the Italian Government, the U.S. will refuse to fulfill its promise regarding the loan to Italy. As is known, the U.S. has no intention of stopping its interference in the internal affairs of other countries. Admiral Turner, the present CIA director, in an interview with the representative of a political magazine a while ago said that this agency has influenced the course of affairs in some countries, including Iran. Admiral Turner then said that the U.S. is also currently interested in preserving its activity in gathering information in foreign countries. It is no surprise that everywhere they demand that such situations end.

Each nation is entitled to settle its affairs independently, without regarding the views of others. Neither the U.S. nor any other country has any right to trample upon the sovereignty of any other nation.

Anticommunism as Weapon

LD020800Y Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

["PRAVDA Commentator on U.S. Unceremonious Interference in West European Countries' Internal Affairs"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 2, TASS--Anticommunism is a weapon of the doomed. It will not bring success to those who expect to undermine the positions of the communist, democratic movement that is in the front ranks of fighters for peace and for the peoples' right to build their future according to their own choice, writes Vitaliy Korionov, PRAVDA's political commentator. In an article headlined "Behind the Screen of Democracy" he comments on the U.S. ruling circles' increasing interference in the inernal affairs of France, Italy and other countries of Western Europe.

The interference did not begin today, of course, the commentator points out. From the Marshall Plan and the establishment of the North Atlantic bloc to the Pentagon's present efforts to impose the neutron bomb on West European countries, characteristic of the Washington's course has been invariably the striving to consider West European states not only as a field of U.S. monopolies' unlimited activities and a place to station American troops but also as an area where the United States must have quite a weighty say in determination of the political order in those countries, right up to the composition of governments.

The increase of U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Italy has been to a considerable extent prompted by the fear of the processes which take place in the ranks of the Christian Democratic Party (DC) of Italy, the article says. The stand of the communists who warned that Italy's future is overshadowed by serious threat which may lead the country to regress, the scope of which is difficult to foresee, meets with increasing understanding among certain circles of the DC. The fact that the Italian Communist Party's consistent line toward the formation of a government of democratic unity with the participation of all democratic forces is finding a favourable response in those DC sections which hold realistic positions does not obviously suit Washington.

The maintenance of American military bases in Italy, the tightening of the "Atlantic" loop on the throat of the countries drawn into NATO, and the further increase in military expanditure on the pleas of "defence"--that is what is practically concealed behind the U.S. influential circles' talk of their policy with regard to Western Europe, the PRAVDA commentator sums up.

The history of the past years, the author writes in conclusion, brought a good deal of convincing confirmations of what baleful consequences have been brought to Western countries by anti-communism. And nevertheless, disregarding the lessons of the past, reactionary circles are again trying to whet and commit to action this rusty weapon in their struggle not only against communists but also against all democratic and democratic freedoms.

SELECTION OF GUN FOR XM-1 TANK EXPLAINED

LD011620Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1252 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 1 Feb--TASS correspondent Albert Bobikov reports:

The Pentagon is planning a further increase in the strength of its military machine. Clifford Alexander, secretary of the Army, has stated that the U.S. Defense Department has told Congress that the Pentagon needs twice as many new U.S. XM-1 tanks as previously requested. The secretary announced that the Pentagon now intends to buy a total of 7,200 to 7,800 of the new tanks.

As is known, the United States has for a number of years been working on the new "tank of the future," to arm U.S. troops stationed not only in the United States but also abroad, in particular Europe. Previously, production of 3,300 XM-1 tanks, which should enter service in 1979, was planned.

During the process of developing a compatible tank for NATO, the United States decided together with its allies who should produce what for the new creation. After prolonged behind-the-scenes talks, deals and "objective" tests on U.S. test ranges and those in Western Europe, on Tuesday the decision finally was announced that the West German 120-mm gun had been chosen for the XM-1 tank. West German Leopard-2 tanks will also be armed with this weapon. However, as the U.S. press reports, the U.S. military-industrial complex agreed to such a deal with the FRG, thanks only to assurances from West Germany that financial help will be given for the costly AWACS, airborne warning and control system, intended for NATO forces in Europe.

U.S. ARMS SALES ABROAD 'AGGRAVATE TENSION'

LD012233Y Moscow TASS in English 2152 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 1 TASS--Lesley Gelb, director of the Bureau for Military-Political Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, admitted that the United States had not, in fact, reduced its arms sales abroad. Speaking about this Tuesday in the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, he said that the United States had not made much progress in the sphere of reducing U.S. arms trade. Indeed, contrary to the official promises of Washington to reduce arms deliveries abroad, the United States continues to increase them. In the fiscal year of 1978 they will be increased, as compared to last year, by 2,000 million dollars and will reach the total sum of 13,200 million dollars. Arms sales to the Middle East, chiefly to Israel, account for about eighty percent of this sum. The huge region of the Middle East and the Persian Gulf is not only being turned into a huge stockpile of American weapons, but, through the fault of Pentagon, is being destabilized politically. Besides increasing arms sales abroad in the current fiscal year, the Pentagon is yet to deliver to foreign countries under earlier signed military contracts 11,000 million dollars worth of [word indistinct] alone. Such a flow of American weaponry, shipped abroad, tends without doubt to aggravate international tension, heats the atmosphere, which is strained as it is, in the explosive areas of the globe.

ATTEMPTS IN CONGRESS TO REVIVE B-1 BOMBER NOTED

LD011440Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1010 GMT 1 Feb 78

[Text] Washington--Leonid Buz, TASS correspondent reports: The henchmen of the military-industrial complex in the U.S. Congress do not stop trying to revive the multimillion dollar armament program of the USAF with strategic bombers, B-1.

The supporters of the arms race are demanding in particular the allocation of 1.4 billion for the construction of another two B-1 bombers.

Senators William Proxmire and John Culver have criticized these efforts. In a joint statement of the senators, distributed on Tuesday in Congress, it is pointed out that returning to the question of the B-1 cannot be justified either by the interests of the U.S. national security or by the desire to preserve employment in the country.

The statement contains an appeal to the Senate to reject efforts to revive the B-1 bomber construction program by means of pushing through Congress allocations for the creation of two more planes, each of which will cost the American taxpayer 720 million.

MATERIAL ON REORGANIZATION OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE ORGANS

Screen of 'Intense Secrecy'

LD012332Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1554 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington--CIA Director Stansfield Turner has given a series of interviews to leading American newspapers and journalists in which he assured the American public that the intelligence organs of the United States will no longer have anything to do with political assassinations, inhuman experiments on people or illegal persecution of Americans. The aim of his press statement is clear--to whitewash the "cloak-and-dagger knights" and to pacify the public after the scandalous revelations of the CIA's criminal actions in recent years.

In the past, too, the leaders of the U.S. intelligence service have had to "pacify" the American public more than once and assure them that the CIA is not doing anything illegal. Now, in the face of incontrovertible evidence, Turner has been forced to make new promises but no one will be deceived by them.

Turner had not a word of reproach for those leaders and agents of the CIA who were involved in illegal acts. On the contrary, he attempted in every way to justify their actions. He believes previous "mistakes" can be written off, justifying them as being "in the national interests of the United States." Turner eloquently displays his attitude to these mistakes: A real American ought to know how to keep his mouth shut for the sake of these interests, he says.

This opinion found its reflection in the reorganization of the U.S. intelligence services which took place recently. Having taken various sections of the American special services under his own management and acquired control of their budgets, Turner has obtained much more freedom of action and the opportunity to surround the activities of his department with a screen of intense secrecy. Thus, whereas previously a leakage of information used to take place now and again from the CIA headquarters at Langley, and the American public came to know about the crimes being perpetrated there, now a higher barrier has been set up.

'Propaganda Tricks'

LD012156Y Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1700 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] U.S. President James Carter has issued a special decree for the reorganization of the American intelligence service. The reorganization amounts to a broadening of the powers of CIA Director Admiral Turner, who is to head an influential committee which will have the power to define the tasks of intelligence operations.

The New York TIMES writes that this means that the most important function of the national intelligence service--the gathering of data, the allocation of tasks, the control of the budget, the analysis of the gathered data for consumers--will be concentrated under Admiral Turner.

As is known, the scandalous disclosures of the activity of American subversive services have recently upset both the American public and people abroad. Uncontrolled intelligence and subversive actions, carried on throughout the world as well as at home, have stirred up a wave of disagreement and seriously undermined the prestige of Washington, which was forced to respond by stating that, with the help of its reorganization measures, it will improve control of the intelligence service and its activity.

Such reassurances, however, can hardly mislead anybody. It is symptomatic that the present reorganization of American intelligence services is being carried out--as emphasised by observers--in the form of a competition between the director of the CIA and the secretary of defense for the right to control the intelligence operations of the Pentagon. This is quite understandable. At stake are huge expenditures from the Federal Treasury on spying and subversion, sums of many millions which [passage indistinct].

This campaign has yet another noteworthy feature. The Washington POST writes that certain governmental officials suggested that [word indistinct] should financially support political groups in foreign governments and use agents for attempts to destablize foreign governments. This means that American intelligence services will still be getting the green light to implement criminal operations of any sort--operations similar to that which overthrew the Popular Unity government in Chile in 1973. In other words, the present reorganization of the U.S. intelligence service is nothing but a fiction. Statements about control and organization of its work amount to nothing put propaganda tricks which are designed to mislead public opinion.

NO TAX ON SOUTH AFRICAN CHROME ALLOY IMPORTS, REPORT INDICATES

LD312124Y Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["Playing Into the Hands of the Racists"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 31 TASS-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports:

President Carter of the United States has refused to raise taxes on chrome alloys imported from South Africa, turning down the recommendation of the U.S. International Trade Commission. This was announced by R. Strauss, the President's special representative at the trade talks, who claimed that a rise of import tax would have an unfavourable impact on the U.S. steel industry.

Last year the United States imported 110,000 tonnes of ferrous chrome concentrates and alloys to the tune of 70 million dollars. Half of the total amount of this important pre-fabricated material which is essential for the manufacture of special-grade steels came from South Africa. Incidentally, the American concern "Union Carbide" is one of the major chrome alloy producers in South Africa.

The President's decision is viewed here as another sign of the growing political and economic support of the U.S. administration for the racist Pretoria regime.

One of the biggest black organizations--the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People--recently published a report which says that there are at present 350 American companies operating in South Africa. They have invested 1.6 billion dollars in South Africa which accounts for 17 percent of all foreign investments in the country.

The American banks are particularly active. According to the African Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, 11 major American banks, including Chase Manhattan Bank, City Bank, Manufacturers Hannover Trust and the Bank of America granted 2.2 billion dollars in credits and loans to South Africa between 1974 and 1976. The sub-committee says in its report that the American loans provided the racist regime with foreign currency to buy arms and oil from abroad.

U.S. WEATHER BALLOON CRASHES WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

LD281010Y Moscow TASS in English 0952 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] New York, January 28, TASS--An American meteorological sounding balloon, which carried on board, as the authorities admit, a "small source of radioactivity" plummeted on Friday in a residential neighbourhood in the town of Montgomery (Alahama). During its fall the balloon, which was of a large size, as well as the gondola with instruments weighing nearly a ton damaged several power supply and telephone lines. The radioactive substance was used in one of the instruments, which was in the gondola of the balloon.

'DANGEROUS' GAS LEAKAGE FROM U.S. MISSILE STORAGE TANK

LD281031Y Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] New York, January 28, TASS--About 8,000 litres of toxic rocket fuel leaked out of a storage tank at a missile site for "Titan-2" missile in the area of the town of Damascus, Arkansas. Despite intensive efforts of specialists, the fault could not be repaired in time. An Air Force spokesman said that a cloud of gas that had leaked from the tank was hazardous to life in a radius of over one kilometre from the spot of the incident. The population was evacuated from all nearby localities and traffic was disrupted in the area of the incident.

SAIFUDIN'S PURGE SUGGESTS PRC LEADERSHIPS' HAN-CHAUVINISM

OW010945Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 31 Jan 78 OW

[Mulatov commentary]

[Excerpts] Quoting Urumchi Radio, UPI has reported that Saifudin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee, has been dismissed from his posts as first secretary of the Sinkiang Regional CCP Committee, chairman of the Sinkiang Regional Revolutionary Committee and first political commissar of the Sinkiang Military Region only 5 months after he was elected alternate member of the Political Bureau of the 11th CCP Central Committee.

People believe that the question of his continued tenure in China's highest ruling clique, if it is still undecided, is a foregone conclusion. Saifudin, as a supporter of the new leadership, was quite active in criticizing the gang of four at the 11th National CCP Congress held last August.

According to a report, he has been accused of having close ties with the gang of four, who are now under arrest. This is the first time that a person of such high rank has been purged since the smashing of the gang of four. This shows that the struggle within China's highest ruling clique has become increasingly more acute and uncompromising. It should also be pointed out that Saifudin's dismissal from these leading posts proves once again that the Peking leaders do not trust political workers who are not of Han nationality.

Wang Feng has been appointed the new leader of Sinkiang. As usual, the Peking leaders plan to solve the complicated issues facing China's national minority areas from a Han-chauvinistic standpoint. As demonstrated by Mao Tse-tung's actions during the Cultural Revolution, any kind of Han-chauvinistic manifestation by the Chinese authorities does not augur well for the working people of Han nationality. Besides, the Peking authorities have always resorted to chauvinism to divert the attention of millions upon millions of people from their own activities in order to implement their reactionary, antipopular social policy. Second, it should also be noted that Saifudin's dismissal is neither the beginning nor the end of the factional struggle within China's leading clique. The dismissal is a stage in this struggle.

The criticism of such a high-ranking official as Chen Hsi-lien, member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee's Military Commission and vice premier of the State Council, in a Shenyang big-character poster calls people's attention to this struggle. The Shenyang poster says that Chen Hsi-lien was a direct agent sent to Shenyang by the gang of four to organize the anti-Teng Hsiao-ping movement. Everyone knows that the present Peking propaganda machine describes any form of criticism of Teng Hsiao-ping as an unpardonable crime. It is noteworthy that Mao Tse-tung, in his last year, lauded criticism of Teng Hsio-ping as a heroic and patriotic act of loyalty to the revolution.

AP believes that the vicious article in the LIBERATION ARMY DAILY which tells the story of Feng Tao, a cunning opportunist who was given important positions in five succeeding ancient Chinese dynasties was an indirect, concealed and yet obvious criticism of Yeh Chien-ying. The Chinese people are quite accustomed to the cunning tricks employed in factional struggles within the upper ruling clique. The AP report, which may be correct, will not necessarily surprise anyone.

Mao Tse-tung's successor, unable to avoid internal strife, is leading the country further down the road of militarization after creating numerous complicated social and economic problems. Morever, he surpasses Mao Tse-tung in inciting fanatical militarism in China. For example, I refer to the provocative statement vigorously advertised by the LIBERATION ARMY DAILY that "a world war will break out tomorrow, if not today."

It should be noted that any form of war propaganda is punishable by law in the Soviet Union. In China, however, war propaganda has become an important tool of prominent political activists and their propaganda machine. Dear friends, that is why the Chinese leaders have separated the Chinese people from the world wide movement to oppose the production of the neutron bomb by bellicose elements in the United States. Peking gives allout support to Washington in this dangerous matter.

Just as LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE of Czechoslovakia points out: The Chinese leading clique criticizes the United States not because the latter advocates a nuclear arms race but because its military and political strategy is not strong enough. This policy of support for the imperialist aggressive forces is at variance with the national interests of the Chinese people.

'THREE WORLDS' THEORY COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY IN NATURE

LD271850Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1600 GMT 27 Jan 78 LD

[Text] In recent times, Peking has been boosting the Maoist theory of three worlds. According to this theory, all nations are divided into three groups. The Soviet Union and the United States are entered in the first world; China, the developing and some other countries to the third world and the rest of the states to the second world.

The newspaper IZVESTIYA makes a comment on this theory. Peking is trying to make the world political situation (?share) in this Maoist scheme to justify its alinement with the most reactionary forces, to set one group of countries against another. IZVESTIYA describes the theory of three worlds as openly reactionary and (?deprecatory). Peking is boosting this theory to justify its policy to disrupt the process of easing tension and provoke a new world war. It's grimly predicted in Peking that in the present historic conditions, a durable peace is impossible and a new world war is inevitable.

While considering the third and second worlds as one whole, Chinese leaders make no distinction between the working class and big business in the capitalist countries, between racist South Africa and Rhodesia on the one side and Angola and most freedom-loving nations in Africa on the other. Nor do they distinguish between the Israeli policy of aggression and expansion and the just struggle by the Arab nations to liberate the land seized by Israel, between the fascist junta and the patriots it's keeping in prisons in Chile or between the progressive and reactionary governments. Pursuing its selfish goals of hegemony, Peking is willing to create blocs and alliances with the class enemy. It's indicative that Peking, posing as the most reliable friend of the oppressed nations, has not said a word in support of the Chilean patriots and against Israeli aggressors and South African racists. Nor does it seem to have been taking concrete action in support of the (?working) movements and the real champions of freedom and independence.

No revolutionary rhetoric can disguise the counterrevolutionary nature of the theory of three worlds.

CHINA ENCOURAGES NEUTRON BOMB PRODUCTION TO COVER SCHEMES

OW010358Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 0930 GMT 31 Jan 78
OW

[Petrov commentary]

[Text] PEOPLES' DAILY recently alleged that Washington was compelled to adopt the plan to manufacture neutron bombs and deploy them in Western Europe. It said that the USSR was ahead of the United States in armaments and therefore, Washington had to try to restore the balance of power. This allegation is itself untenable. U.S. President Carter, U.S. Secretary of State Vance and authoriative activists in the West all have pointed out that the United States and the USSR are actually equal in military strength.

The USSR considers the neutron bomb a barbarous weapon. This is another reason for the PEOPLES' DAILY attack on the USSR for it asked "aren't atomic and hydrogen weapons barbarous weapons?" Of course, nuclear weapons currently possessed by the nuclear powers including China are barbarous weapons of mass destruction. However, the following points must be taken into consideration:

1. Because no other countries have yet manufactured this new weapon, it is quite natural for the USSR to work to prevent its development and manufacture in order to avoid another round of the arms race. Everybody knows that it was the USSR that proposed at the United Nations a prohibition of development and manufacture of new mass destruction weapons.

2. The USSR considers the neutron bomb an especially barbarous large-scale mass destruction weapon because it is designed to harm human beings and other living things.

Denying these facts, Chinese leaders joined those who claimed that the neutron bomb was a general tactical weapon. Why has Peking vilified the Soviet stand on the neutron weapon? Probably because the Soviet Union has proposed worldwide prohibition of all new weapons. Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, said in late December 1977: "We propose that an agreement be reached that none of us will manufacture the the neutron bomb so that this new mass destruction weapon will never appear. This is our sincere wish and this is our proposition to Western countries."

This Soviet proposal caused Peking to panic. Not long ago, in the fall of 1977, top Chinese leaders hinted that they would not object to having the neutron bomb. A poem written by Chang Ai-ping, deputy chief of the PLA General Staff, and published in the PEOPLES' DAILY, also testifies to this point. The reason that the Chinese leaders crave this mass destruction weapon is clear. Peking puts its hopes on the military for realization of its big-power chauvinist scheme. If all other countries give up the plan for manufacturing the neutrom bomb and China becomes the only country to manufacture it, then Peking's dangerous plot will become apparent to all. Therefore, Chinese leaders had to distort the Soviet stand to cover up their own plot.

HUNGARY'S APRO COMMENTS ON SUCCESS OF VISIT TO USSR

LD011530Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A Hungarian National Assembly delegation headed by Antal Apro, member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic, has returned to Budapest following a visit to the Soviet Union. In an interview with our correspondent, Comrade Antal Apro said:

[Apro in Hungarian, fading into superimposed Russian translation--recorded] The official, friendly visit of our delegation was a new, important stage in the regular exchange of experiences between the highest representative organizations of our countries, the Hungarian National Assembly and the USSR Supreme Soviet. We had talks with representatives of both chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, with the leaders of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet, visited the (?Moscow) Gorispolkom and visited Brestskaya Oblast. We had the opportunity for a broad exchange of views on cooperation between our countries. Our own eyes convinced us of the great successes achieved by the Soviet people, implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

We briefed each other, Comrade Antal Apro continues, on the activities of our parliaments, their international contacts and on our efforts to strengthen peace and detente. The Soviet Union plays the leading role in this extremely important task and, together with the fraternal Soviet people, the people of Hungary are resolutely struggling to implement the peace policy.

Both in Moscow and in Soviet Belorussia, Comrade Antal Apro went on, we had the opportunity to familiarize ourselves with collectives of large Soviet enterprises. We met Soviet people, workers and engineers, learned about their lives, happiness and problems. Our delegation visited the Moscow Vladimir Ilich plant. We were guests at the Minsk tractor factory. Belarus tractors are well known in our country. Tens of thousands of them are working in the fields in Hungary.

Summing up the results of our visit, Comrade Antal Apro says, I would like to stress that our visit to the Soviet Union was very useful for all of us. We have returned home enriched with the valuable experience of the CPSU in building advanced socialism. And this visit will undoubtedly contribute to the further development of cooperation between our countries and the strengthening of the inviolable fraternal friendship between the people of Hungary and the Soviet Union.

GRISHIN, DELEGATION VISIT BERLIN FACTORY, MEMORIAL

LD020945Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A TASS correspondent reports from the GDR capital: A Moscow delegation headed by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom visited the Berlin Oberspree cable works. The collective of the enterprise has had close links for many years with their Soviet colleagues and workers from the Moskabel works; about a quarter of their production is exported to the Soviet Union

A meeting was held at the enterprise. Comrade Grishin presented the red banner with the picture of Lenin and a gift to the collective of the plant on behalf of Moscow workers.

Visit to Memorial

LD011952Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The Moscow delegation in Berlin headed by Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow City Gorkom, laid a wreath today at the monument to the Soviet Liberator-Soldier in Treptow Park. Naumann, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Berlin SED Area Executive, and representatives of the city's population attended the ceremony. The Moscow delegation then laid a wreath at the memorial to fallen socialists in the Friedrichsfelde area of Berlin.

GDR'S AXEN, FISCHER MEET WITH FRG MINISTER

LD281846Y Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, January 28, TASS--H. Axen, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the SUPG Central Committee and O. Fischer, the foreign minister, had a meeting today with H.J. Wischnewski, the minister of state in the Department of the FRG Federal Chancellor, in the capital of the GDR, reported ADN news agency.

They discussed the state of relations between the GDR and the FRG. It was stressed that the GDR is willing as before to continue the process of normalization of relations in the interests of peace and relaxation of tension in accordance with the treaties concluded. But for this it is necessary to create a business-like atmosphere in relations between the two states.

It was said that only strict observance and the use of the principles of peaceful co-existence, that are recorded in the treaty on the basic principles of relations between the GDR and the FRG, as well as in the final act of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, are conducive to constructive talks and to attainment of results in the spirit of relaxation of tensions and to the good of the citizens of the two states.

SOVIET-POLISH TALKS SHOW PROGRESS IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC TIES

LD012134Y Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz, member of PZPR Central Committee Politburo, has paid a short visit to Moscow. Regular meetings and talks by the leaders of our countries signal close cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland. During these summit meetings, which invariably progress in an atmosphere of sincerity, friendship, mutual understanding and uniformity of views, the participants discuss a broad spectrum of problems.

During the meeting at the Kremlin Tuesday between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium; Aleksey Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Piotr Jaroszewicz, member of PZPR Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, mutual satisfaction was expressed with the progress of fraternal Soviet-Polish political and economic relations and with the fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland, both bilateral and within the framework of CEMA.

Lasting contacts between the Soviet Union and Poland have become an important factor in successfully achieving the tasks of building communism and socialism which were presented to the workers of our countries at the 21st CPSU Congress and the 7th PZPR Congress.

Supplies of raw materials, machinery and installations have a great importance for the development of the national economies of the Soviet Union and Poland. Successful development of Soviet-Polish economic contacts is creating favorable conditions to deepen specialization of the international division of labor and to fully utilize production potential in increasing the technological progress in our countries. Multi-faceted cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland is contributing to the further consolidation of the socialist community and to the common struggle of the fraternal countries for social progress and the solving of many international problems.

CPSU'S PELSHE, OTHERS ATTEND ROMANIAN TREATY MEETING

LD012112Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A festive assembly of representatives of Moscow's working people devoted to the 30th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the Soviet Union and the Socialist Republic of Romania took place today. Its presidium included Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Dolgikh, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vader, deputy chairman of the USSR Surpeme Presidium Soviet; Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; representatives of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society; and others. The Presidium also included a delegation of the Romanian Society for Friendly Ties With the USSR led by Cumpanasu, director general of the Romanian press agency, AGERPRES, and diplomatic staff members of the Romanian Embassy in the USSR.

It was stressed at the meeting that the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual aid between the USSR and Romania has promoted the strengthening of the forces of socialism and success in the common struggle against the intrigues of imperialism.

KATUSHEV LEADS SOVIET DELEGATION TO ROMANIA

LD311240Y Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--A Soviet delegation led by Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Konstantin Katushev has left Moscow for Bucharest today for participation in the tenth session of the Soviet-Romanian Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation.

MANESCU, FADEYEV HOLD FRIENDLY ECONOMIC TALKS

LD011552Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Manescu, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, has received Fadeyev, secretary of the Council of Mutual Economic Aid. During a conversation, which was held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, questions on economic cooperation within the framework of the council of mutual economic aid were discussed.

DC UNABLE TO RESOLVE GOVERNMENT CRISIS, PCI CALLS FOR UNITY

LD011922Y Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Rome, February 1 TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Malyshev reports:

The Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti, entrusted by President Giovanni Leone of Italy to form a new cabinet, decided to postpone the second rounds of consultations with political parties, just started. After Andreotti's meeting on Tuesday with a delegation of the Christian Democratic Party, the convocation on Friday of a meeting of the DC leadership was announced, to be followed by its chief leading body--the National Council.

Giulio Andreotti's negotiations with the delegations of other political parties aimed at finding a way out of the government crisis, now already in its third week, will be resumed, it follows, not before the Christian Democrats finalize their position in the prevailing situation. Also postponed is a discussion of the draft government program drawn up by DC experts, which Giulio Andreotti intended to disclose to the leaders of other parties.

In the view of local commentators, the fresh postponement of consultations is caused by differences within the DC leadership over ways to settle the government crisis, and the inability of the Christian Democrats to offer at this stage an acceptable alternative to the demands of other parties, which insist on changes in the political leadership of the state. The Italian Communist Party, as is known, urges the creation of a government of democratic unity, with the participation of all democratic parties, the Communist Party included. Its position is supported by the Socialists and the Republicans.

The democratic press emphasizes that the delay of the consultations leads to an extension of the crisis, creating an atmosphere of political uncertainty in the country, and gives more room for manoeuvre to right-wing quarters, which are doing their best to push Italy towards pre-term elections, fraught with a still greater sharpening of the political situation. In an interview for the PANORAMA WEEKLY, Giorgio Napolitano, a member of the PCI leadership, noted that certain quarters in the DC are hatching plans aimed at protracting the negotiations aimed at settling the crisis, so that pre-term elections become inevitable.

Andreotti Consultations

LD011239Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 78 p 5 LD

[Report by N. Prozhogin: "Crisis Upheavals"]

[Text] Rome--Prime M nister Designate G. Andreotti has concluded his talks with the leaders of all the political parties represented in Parliament. Andreotti also met members of the CGIL-CISL-UIL Trade Union Federation leadership. Earlier, Andreotti had also talked with the chairman of Confindustria, the Italian industrialists association. The prime minister-designate visited the president of Italy and told him about the results of the "first round" of talks.

Following that visit, Andreotti made a statement to journalists which indicated that he intends to hold a "second round" of meetings next week which may be confined to representatives of the six leading political parties in the country. These parties participated in the formulation of last year's program agreement. The talks will concern mainly economic problems.

The situation is all the more complex because of the persistent shadow of imperialist forces' interference in Italy's internal affairs. The Catholic Church, represented by the Permanent Council of the Conference of Italian Bishops, has also come out with a belligerent anti-Marxist and anticommunist statement.

MARCHAIS: PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS VITAL TO FRANCE

LD011211Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[Text] Paris, 29 January TASS--Inequality and injustice are the characteristic features of French society today. The implementation of profound democratic transformations and the nationalization of the major monopoly groups--such is the path which answers the vital interests of the working people of France, G. Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], stated in a speech at an election meeting in Le Mans city. Marchais firmly condemned the policy of the present government, which is incapable of resolving the economic and social problems facing the country.

Not long ago, Marchais said, U.S. President Carter tried to dictate to the French people now they should vote when they enter the polling booths in March. Such interference is impermissable, Marchais stressed. We want complete independence for our country both in the military and in the political spheres.

W. BERLIN TIES TO EEC IRRATIONAL, ILLEGAL, PROVOCATIVE

DW011006Y Moscow in German to Germany 1622 GMT 31 Jan 78 DW

[Valentin Zakharov commentary]

[Text] When Wolfgang Lueder, West Berlin mayor and senator for economics, addressed the so-called Committee of the Youth Farmers of Europe Monday he irrationally claimed that Berlin is part of the European Community. Mr Lueder's statement is irrational, primarily because Berlin does not exist as such. What exists today, on the one hand, is Berlin as the capital of the GDR. It is an inseparable part of the republic and has the same legal status as any other territory of the GDR. On the other hand, there is West Berlin. Its status has been clearly and unequivocally defined in the September 1971 Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin.

West Berlin Mayor Wolfgang Lueder's claim concerning Berlin's affiliation with the European Community is irrational, secondly, because West Berlin was not and is not a member of the European Community, meaning the so-called Common Market. West Berlin was not a co-founder of the organization, nor is it an associate member, nor a member in any other status of the so-called European Community.

Since West Berlin is not part of the FRG, a fact stressed in the core sentence of the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin, it cannot be considered an area to which EEC treaties can be applied.

All of this shows that Lueder's assertion that West Berlin belongs to the European community is pure fantasy. It contradicts the political and legal status of West Berlin. It ignores the legal situation and political realities.

Consequently, earlier and present sessions of the commissions of the West European Parliament in West Berlin are absolutely illegal and politically provocative, because they are an attempt to expand the EEC's activities in West Berlin. The forward strategy developed by the West Berlin Chamber of Trade and Commerce, which aims at integrating West Berlin into the economic and social systems of the FRG, must also be considered illegal and politically provocative.

Wolfgang Lueder's attempts can only lead to unnecessary complications. Attempts to torpedo the Quadripartite Agreement on West Berlin cannot achieve anything positive for West Berlin and its inhabitants.

FRG, U.S. INCREASE 'LETHAL ARMAMENTS' TRADE WITH NATO

LD011104Y Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, February 1, TASS--The FRG defence minister, Georg Leber, was informed on Tuesday by the U.S. defence secretary, Harold Brown, that the Pentagon had decided to buy from West Germany 120-millimetre guns for new U.S. tanks. This was reported by the DPA AGENCY which referred to the FRG Defence Ministry.

So armaments merchants from the West German trust "Rheinmetall" succeeded in putting their products on the market in the United States. The firm has prevailed in an acute competition with U.S. and British war industry firms that also offered samples of their guns for tanks.

It has now become known that the United States intends to buy from the FRG a licence for the production of 120-millimetre guns for its armed forces and for deliveries abroad.

The RFG Defence Ministry announced that the United States decision is an "important landmark" in standardising armaments in NATO framework. But this "standardization" covers up acute competiton of war industry enterprises of the two leading NATO countries for putting their products on the markets of other NATO countries.

Tanks, self-propelled units and other military equipment of the West German make is used for arming a number of countries of Western Europe. The production of the "Rolland" missile system created in the FRG was started at enterprises of the U.S. firm "Boeing". The United States also bought a large consignment of artillery systems with which self-propelled anti-aircraft units "Gepard" are equipped. These units are manufactured at West German war factories.

Stepping up the export of lethal armaments, the FRG armaments merchants hope to get new billions in profits.

PRESS RECEIVES CIA MONEY TO PRINT ANTI-SOVIET ARTICLES

LD312340Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Valentin Belyayev commentary]

[Text] Over the years that I have worked at Radio Moscow, I have often noticed in letters coming from our listeners in Britain one and the same question: Why is the British mass media so biased against the Soviet Union? Why are phoney articles, articles slandering the Soviet way of life published so often. (Andy Brooks) of (?Roddenham), Essex, for example, puts it this way:

I think that the general picture of Soviet life given by the Western mass media is distorted and untrue. Well, of course, I could list a great many reasons for such a state of affairs for the benefit of Mr (Brooks) and other listeners but there really seems no need to do so because THE GUARDIAN and THE OBSERVER seem to have done the job already. Both papers printed articles exposing the activities of that special and highly secret department of the British Foreign Office whose job it was to conduct counterpropaganda against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and developing states.

The department, known as Information Research, was set up way back in 1947 at the instructions of the then foreign minister, Mr Bevin, and its staff was strictly forbidden to say anthing about their work to colleagues from other units. And one can well imagine what the department's functions were from the fact that its staff was recruited from among experts on Eastern Europe who had fled to the West after the end of the Second World War. Throughout all the years of its existence the experts from the Information Research Department drafted official recommendations on the political slanting of material sent to British embassies abroad and correspondents of British newspapers.

Considering that the department worked in close contact with the special services of the American CIA and, what is more, received money from it in order to bribe British journalists, it now becomes clear why the voices of the Sovietologists and Kremlinologists from THE TIMES, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, THE ECONOMIST, THE DAILY EXPRESS and THE GUARDIAN all sound so very much alike and have a clearly American anti-Soviet accent. For money received, services have to be rendered. So I really am not the least surprised by the enthusiasm with which the British mass media joined in the American-launched campaign for the defense of human rights in the Soviet Union and in the other socialist countries nor, when you come to think of it, is there anything surprising in the London papers repeating week in, week out, claims that the Soviet Union is building up its military might and, to insure the proper brainwashing of the British public, the stories chosen are such that they could compete for a place in the "Guinness Book of Records" except of course for the fact that the Guinness book doesn't print unverified facts.

Unlike REUTER, Guinness would not have published the story about an American spy satellite pinpointing a factory near Moscow said to breed super-resistant and super-dangerous bacteria that could be used for bacteriological warfare. These anti-Soviet propaganda campaigns, practised for decades by the so-called experts on the East, could perhaps be interpreted as freedom of the imagination, but since these campaigns are paid for with CIA money, or money from the Information Research Department of the Foreign Office, they certainly do not bear witness to the freedom of the mass media in Britain. That, of course, is how I see it from afar. However, people in Britain will probably have also made up their minds about its merits or demerits. The OBSERVER article pointed out that the Information Research Department had been particularly busy with propaganda in the Labor Party and the trade union movement in Britain itself. That being the case, what guarantee can there be that the Fleet Street press, with an eye to CIA praise, might not decide to instruct Mr (Brooks) and his fellow countrymen on how they should vote at the next election, or something else of that sort, especially since the GUARDIAN, reporting the passing away of the Information Research Department in 1977, also reported that it had been resurrected in a new form and with wider functions?

CAIRO MILITARY TALKS RESUME; RESULTS AFTER AS-SADAT U.S. VISIT

LD011758Y Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, February 1, TASS--The Egyptian-Israeli military committee has resumed its work here. The War Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi and Israeli Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman have started discussing the details of the impending separate deal. The main (?item) on the agenda of the negotiations is the question of Israeli paramilitary settlements and a number of military projects, built by Israel on the occupied part of Egypt's territory--the Sinai Peninsula.

The Israeli Government is known to have been lately stating repeatedly in a categoric form that under no circumstances it will agree to elimination of the settlements in the Sinai. Nevertheless, President as-Sadat announced yesterday that he gave his war minister the instruction to "come to terms" with Weizman.

According to Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, the results of separate negotiations will be "materialized" only after As-Sadat's negotiations with U.S. President James Carter late this week.

The Egyptian leadership obviously still hopes that Washington will exert pressure upon Israel, will make it soften its intractable stand in order to somehow justify Cairo's concessions. Meanwhile, practice of many years shows that there is no ground for such hopes and cannot be. The Israeli leaders with a powerful support of the Zionist lobby in the United States behind their back repeatedly stated in public that there is no reason for them to fear any American pressure.

Beirut, February 1, TASS--As-Sadat's trip to Washington is envisaged by an American scenario under which Egyptian-Israeli negotiations are staged, said Majid Abu Sharar ah, member of the Central Council of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The dramatic gestures of the Egyptian president, he said, cannot mislead the world public opinion. It is clear that As-Sadat is ready, as never before, to conclude a separate deal with Israel to the detriment of the interests of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people. The methods he has chosen to save his political face will not conceal the essence of his anti-Arab policy, fully subjugated to Washington's diktat.

A similar appraisal of the latest developments in the Middle East has been given by the leadership of the Lebanese national-patriotic forces, who stated that As-Sadat intentionally exaggerates the question of "difficulties" that arise in the course of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations in a bid to create an atmosphere needed to somehow camouflage the capitulatory character of the impending deal with Israel. The statement of the leadership of the national-patriotic forces stresses that consolidation of the front of the countries coming out against As-Sadat's capitulatory course is an effective guarantee of frustrating imperialist-Zionist plans in the Middle East.

Attempt To Impose Terms

LD011545Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[R. Moseyev report: "They Are Putting on Pressure"]

[Text] Cairo--It has been officially announced in Cairo that Egyptian President as-Sadat will visit the United States 4-5 February, where he will "have talks on the Near East situation."

Local political commentators in Cairo stress that the Egyptian president's forthcoming trip across the Atlantic, undertaken at White House initiative, has been prompted by insoluble difficulties in Egyptian-Israeli negotiations. The Israeli leadership, the press admits, is trying to impose "one-sided terms for signing a separate peace" on Egypt. As Foreign Minister Kamil noted at a joint session of three commissions of the Egyptian People's Assembly, during the continuing Egyptian-Israeli contacts, Tel Aviv is refusing to discuss key aspects of a Near East settlement.

In this situation, As-Sadat's invitation "for consultations in Washington," which is on the side of the aggressor, is regarded by commentators as an intensification of pressure on Cairo to force it to recognize "U.S.-Israeli terms for a Near East settlement."

It is characteristic that Tel Aviv welcomed with great satisfaction the announcement of As-Sadat's U.S. trip. The Israeli Cabinet has decided to approve the resumption of the work of the Egyptian-Israeli military committee.

EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS THREAT TO ARAB INTERESTS, STABLE PEACE

LD012056Y Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["Reality Versus Illusion"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 1 TASS--Begin's plan, described by U.S. President Carter as a fair basis for negotiations, is aimed at consolidating the results of Israeli expansion and leads to the further infringement of the sovereignty of Arab states, writes the weekly NEW TIMES. And attempts to save the stalled Egyptian-Israeli separate negotations continue.

This is why, the NEW TIMES goes on, the [few words indistinct] sponsors are feeding the Arabs the idea of separate deals, (?promising) individual concessions and advantages to those who embark on this road. However, as the experience of the bilateral Egyptian-Israeli negotations showed, so far it was the victim, rather than the aggressor, who had to make the concessions.

The Middle East is going through a difficult stage in its history. The separate negotiations created a situation which is a serious threat to the vital interests of the peoples of the region and prevents the attainment of a stable peace there. The situation, as it is shaping out, once more emphasizes the need to return the matter of the Middle East settlement into the framework of the Geneva conference, which must be convened under such conditions that would preclude its being turned into a smoke screen to cover [words indistinct] (?censure)--discussion of the entire complex of Middle East problems with the aim of establishing a truly just and lasting peace.

EGYPTIAN PRESS HALTS ANTI-U.S. DRIVE, STEPS UP ANTI-SOVIETISM

LD011105Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent A. Vasilyev report: "Continuing the Separate Course"]

[Text] Cairo, 29 January--Today Egyptian press publications critical of the United States stopped all at once, as if on order. The newspapers front page the report of the planned visit of President as-Sadat to Washington soon.

The very fact of the trip to the United States shows that the American administration is again trying to sugar the pill of its refusal to support Egypt at the separate talks with Israel. The report of Egyptian Foreign Minister M. Kamil on the results of the separate talks with Israel was discussed yesterday in the People's Assembly's committees on foreign affairs. Only the official view on the event is published, although 39 deputies spoke at the session. In a brief report on the People's Assembly sessions the newspaper AL-AHRAM writes that the speakers noted: It is precisely U.S. military assistance to Israel that is strengthening its expansionist aspirations. Several deputies indicated the principled position of the socialist countries on support for the just demands of the Arab peoples and advocated the establishment of normal relations with the Soviet Union.

However, in order to "prepare the soil" for the Egyptian president's visit to the United States and distract the country's public opinion from the failures of Cairo's foreign policy actions, local propaganda has again sharply stepped up publication of items full of anti-Soviet and anticommunist fabrications.

EGYPT'S WOES BLAMED ON AS-SADAT'S EFFORTS TO DO U.S. BIDDING

LD020825Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Special correspondent S. Kondrashov report: "Egyptian Impressions"]

[Excerpt] Cairo--Moscow--A year ago, last January, disturbances and bread riots occurred in Cairo and it was not without difficulty that the army and police coped with them. In accordance with the custom followed by the present regime and the groveling press, the blame was put on "subversive organizations" and communists. Essentially, the culprits were the Egyptian Government's Western advisers. In extending credits, the IMF demanded that Egypt's budget and balance of payments be equalized. It was recommended that budget subsidies for goods and services be reduced as much as possible, that is, that prices be increased. This recommendation was heeded--and the popular disturbances ensued.

The general opinion is that the Egyptian economy is in a serious state. President as-Sadat sees the way out in aid from the West, above all the United States. In 1973 the "open door" policy, for Western capital was proclaimed. According to official figures, from 1973 through 1976 foreign credits, loans and subsidies amounted to over $5 billion (although inflation in the world economy over the same period cost Egypt $7 billion--as a result of the rise in the cost of imports).

Specialists have different opinions as to whether or not and for whom the "open-door" policy is working, and for whom it is not working. Cautiously, Western capital reached out to Egypt after hearing apologies for its recent past and receiving assurances that its profits would be safe and that it would be guaranteed against nationalization. At the "open door," deferentially escourting the foreigners, hovers a stratum of dishonest middlemen far removed from their people, dreaming of Mercedes automobiles, villas and access to the backrooms of Western big business. But what does this new policy give the masses? "As-Sadat cannot display proper concern for the main needs of his country's millions of poor.... The disorders began in connection with the rise in food prices which he had ordered to satisfy his international creditors...." This assessment is taken from the Washington POST and concerns the January 1977 events, but nothing has occurred since then to invalidate this statement.

It is well known that, under As-Sadat, Egypt is being reoriented, and both salients, domestic policy and foreign policy, are closely interlinked and supplement each others. [paragraph continues]

The key element of the reorientation lies in the new, closer relations with the United States and, by contrast, the frankly hostile attitude toward the Soviet Union. In the same spirit there has been a move away from the progressive Arab countries and attempts have begun to "initiate a reconciliation" with Israel (which for U.S. capital serves as an important guarantee of the Egyptian regime's "trustworthiness).

Back in 1974, during Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy" President as-Sadat first tasted, and accepted, the temptations of separatist actions by concluding an agreement on the disengagement of troops in Sinai. It was at approximately that time that U.S. financial blandishments began and the trans-Atlantic carrot was dangled before Cairo, luring it still further. Kissinger openly proposed to encourage As-Sadat toward a policy of "departure from the Soviet Union and rapprochement with the United States," and then Treasury Secretary William Simon began to speak of a "Marshall Plan" for Egypt.

The name did not stick, but here is an eloquent fact reported by the U.S. press: The United States is now giving Egypt the same amount of economic aid that it gives to the rest of Africa and Latin America combined (but, of course, far less than it gives to Israel, although its population is 11 times less than that of Egypt).

Almost $1 billion a year from Uncle Sam is not philanthropy and not nobility. The Capitol credit authorities are discriminating and, when necessary, highly niggardly. But this is something different. According to John Gilligan, AID director, the U.S. administration presented the aid for Egypt to the U.S. Congress "not as a development program but as a political reward." For what?

To a certain extent the answer lies in the familiar recent events in the Near East--As-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem and all the subsequent reverals of his so-called "peace initiative." Washington is not hogging the limelight but is upholding its right to call the tune. The right to demand a settlement which does not suit the Palestinians, Syrians, Jordanians, or even the Egyptians, but rather U.S. imperialism's strategic interests and main ally, Israel. In Cairo, sober and sensible people are saying that Egypt has become the American political agent in the Arab world, a skeleton key, which is degrading to the Egyptian people's dignity.

To insult the dignity of a people who, although they are poor, are not deprived of national self-awareness is a risky business. In this sense the Egyptian president's freedom of action is limited. This in particular expalins the fact that after 2 months of efforts, those participating in the Egyptian-Israli dialog have found themselves deadlocked and on bad terms. But Washington is demanding new efforts in the sphere of separatist diplomacy and Cairo will evidently make them--picking up the bill for the U.S. expenditure.

ISRAEL CONTINUES POLICY OF PLUNDERING SINAI OIL WEALTH

LD011612Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["Plunder Continues"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo, February 1, TASS--Israel continues its policy of plundering the natural wealth of the occupied Sinai Peninsula. According to the Cairo weekly AKHIR SA'AH, the Israelis have already launched commercial exploitation of more than 10 oil wells in the southern part of the peninsula, near Sharm ash-Shaykh.

They also continue drilling for oil in the north of Sinai, in the area of Al-'Arish, and also in the coastal waters of the Mediterranean. According to specialists' estimates, the wells discovered can produce about 10,000 tons of oil every day.

The Israeli Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Yizhaq Moda'i recently cynically stated that for his government "it will be no difficulty" to come to terms with the Egyptian authorities concerning oil to be produced in Sinai. He noted that Tel Aviv expected to have not less than a third of total oil production.

WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS BEGUN, GOLAN CONSTRUCTION PLANNED

LD011614Y Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["Getting Entrenched on Occupied Lands"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beirut, February 1, TASS--Despite protests of the world and Arab public, Israel continues the construction of militarized settlements in occupied Arab lands.

The Palestinian news agency reports that the Israeli authorities decided to start an urgent construction of three new militarized settlements near the town of Nabulus. Building materials, earth moving machines and other equipment is being delivered to the construction sites.

Quoting well-informed sources, the Palestinian news agency also reports that the Israeli Government has developed a secret plan of large-scale construction in the Golan Heights. The agency notes in this connection that Israel, conducting the policy of accomplished facts, seeks to legalise its presence in the occupied Arab lands.

U.S. EMBASSY ACCUSED OF MANIPULATING ISRAELI GOVERNMENT

TA020834Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 1 Feb 78 TA

[Text] U.S. diplomacy is daily increasing its rude involvement in the affairs of the Israeli Government. Foreign Ministry officials have complained to journalists that lately they have received instructions from the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv rather than from Moshe Dayan. A senior official in the Israeli Foreign Ministry has told correspondents that those pulling the strings in the [U.S.] Embassy on Hayarqon Street, include not only State Department officials but also CIA workers, and that they want to drag Israel into their harmful games in the Middle East.

It has been learned that certain Knesset members from the [Likud] Liberal Party and from the Independent Liberal Party are going to demand that the government report to the Knesset on the instructions given government offices and also to note the extent to which such instructions respond to the interests of the state's security.

FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN LEBANON RESUMES, ISRAEL INVOLVED

LD011942Y Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 1 TASS--Fighting has resumed in the south of Lebanon between the armed units of the right-wing forces, on the one hand, and the national patriotic forces of Lebanon and Palestinian detachments, on the other hand.

Tanks of the conservative forces, stationed in the area of the south Lebanese settlements of Al-Mari and Mari 'Uyod, subjected positions of the national patriotic forces and Palestinians to intensive shelling.

Israeli artillery has stepped up its shellings of southern Lebanon with the aim of supporting military operations conducted by right-wing units.

Evidence of Anti-PLO Plot

LD011237Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 78 P 5 LD

[Report by K. Geyvandov: "Tense Situation"]

[Text] Beirut--The situation remains tense in southern Lebanon as a result of the Israeli military's ceaseless provocations. News agencies report that large contingents of Israeli forces are again massing on the Lebanese border. The rightwing Phalangist Party's Voice of Lebanon radio station stated that it has learned that Israel is preparing to "punish the Palestinians."

This statement, which has caused heightened activity among certain Lebanese rightwing circles, is regarded by the local press as evidence of the preparation of a new plot against the Palestinian resistance movement. This plot is closely connected with the Egyptian-Israeli separate maneuvers.

In this connection the recent PLO Executive Committee session published a statement expressing determination to continue the indefatigable struggle against imperialist and Zionist plots and for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. In particular, the PLO rejects a recent proposal by Egyptian President as-Sadat on the establishment of a limited UN mandate over the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip. The statement notes that this proposal "is a violation of the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences in Algiers and Rabat concerning the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, particularly their right to return and to self-determination and also their right to create an independent Palestinian state headed by the PLO."

The Egyptian president's proposal, the PLO Executive Committee stated, is a reflection of the American plan which aims at perpetuating Israel's occupation of Jordan's West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

PLO'S ABU MAYZAR COMMENTS ON ALGIERS MIDEAST CONFERENCE

LD011305Y Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, February 1, TASS--A conference of foreign ministers of Arab states declaring against the separate talks of the Egyptian President as-Sadat with Israel is under way in the Algerian capital. The foreign ministers of Algeria, Syria, Libya, the Democratic Yemen, as well as a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, have endorsed the agenda of a summit conference of these states and the Palestine Liberation Organization which will open here in a few days' time.

The conference also discusses recommendations for the summit meeting aimed at a truly just settlement of the Middle East problem.

Speaking before newsmen the press secretary of the conference, representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization Abu Mayzar emphasised the resolve of the Arab peoples to frustrate the intentions of imperialism and reaction to solve the problem in the capitulatory spirit.

Abu Mayzar said that these plans reflected in the separate Egyptian-Israeli talks are aimed at imposing the will of imperialism and Zionism on the Arab peoples and to establish control over their natural wealth.

Peace in the Middle East can be established only on the basis of liberation of all occupied Arab lands and recognition of the lawful rights of the Palestinian Arab people, above all their right to create an independent state in the native land, he went on to say. The participants in the conference believe, Abu Mayzar said, that the Palestine problem is the essence of the Middle East conflict and that attempts to ignore it can only aggravate the situation. Touching upon the United States policy in the Middle East, Abu Mayzar said that Washington is responsible that a tense situation threatening world peace was created in the area.

TUNISIAN RIOTERS ON TRIAL; BOURGUIBA ACTIONS PROTESTED BY WFTU

LD011937Y Moscow TASS in English 1919 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tunis, February 1 TASS--Trials of participants of the disturbances, which occurred during last week's general 24-hour strike, are taking place in different areas of Tunisia. The accused are being sentenced to different prison terms, ranging from a few months to several years.

It is common knowledge that the strike, called by the General Tunisian Labour Union, was provoked by the dropping living standards of the working people, and, consequently, sharp contradictions between the Tunisian trade union's and the country's leadership on several aspects of the government's domestic policy. The General Tunisian Labour Union also accused the official authorities of perpetrating repressions against trade union centres, of pressuring the trade unions.

Speaking in the National Assembly, the Prime Minister of Tunisia Hedi Nouria laid the blame on the General Tunisian Labour Union for the disturbances, during which, according to official data, 42 persons were killed and more than 300 wounded. He also claimed that the leadership of the Tunisian trade unions acted according to a preconceived plan with a view to provoking the unrest. People responsible for the riots, he said, will be brought to trial.

On demand of the government, the National Assembly of Tunisia stripped of parliamentary immunity Habib Achour, secretary general of the union, who is now under arrest, and three members of the Executive Bureau of the General Tunisian Labour Union.

Prague, February 1 TASS--Pierre Gensous, secretary general of the World Federation of Trade Unions, addressed a telegram to H. Bourguiba, the president of Tunisia, protesting against the actions of the Tunisian authorities and demanding the release of trade-union activists.

Similar telegrams were sent to the Tunisian leadership by the trade union federations of several countries.

PDRY PRIME MINISTER, DELEGATION ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD011354Y Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1 TASS--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization National Front, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, arrived here today at the head of a government delegation on an official visit at the Soviet Government's invitation.

At the airport decorated with flags of the PDRY and the Soviet Union the guest was welcomed by members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee--Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Kiril Mazurov, as well as by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov, ministers of the USSR Yevgeniy Alekseyevskiy, Timofey Guzhenko, Yevginiy Kozlovskiy, Chairman of the Committee for External Economic Ties Semen Skachkov and other officials.

The welcoming party included the PDRY Ambassador in the USSR 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad ad-Dali, the heads of the diplomatic missions of a number of countries accredited in the USSR.

A guard of honour was lined up on the tarmac and the national anthems of the PDRY and the USSR were performed. Aleksey Kosygin and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received the report of the commander of the guard of honour and inspected the guard of honour. The distinguished guest was welcomed by representatives of Moscow's working people.

From the airport 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the statesmen who arrived together with him drove to Moscow. The streets of the capital, through which the motorcade and the motorcycle escort passed, were decorated with flags of the PDRY and the USSR and streamers with words of welcome.

Talks With Kosygin

LD011534Y Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 01 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 1 TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, had a meeting here today with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization National Front and prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, who arrived in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit.

In the course of their conversation Aleksey Kosygin and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed satisfaction with the steady development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, with the identity of positions of both sides on questions of struggle for peace and international security, for the further relaxation of international tension, and also informed each other on the progress of socio-political, economic and cultural construction in both countries.

The conversation proceeded in a warm, cordial atmosphere.

SOVIET PEOPLE FOLLOW PDRY'S STRUGGLE FOR PROGRESS

LD311650Y Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Lysenko writes:

The Soviet people are following with sympathy the progress of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the young Arab state which celebrated the tenth anniversary of its independence at the close of last year. The progressive course of development triumphed during this period in the republic due to the revolutionary reforms carried out there. On the basis of the ideas of scientific socialism the republic's government is carrying out radical reforms in industry and agriculture, in social life.

The dire legacy of colonialism, the semi-feudal way of life, which prevailed there till of late, limited reserves of natural wealth, complicate the implementation of the tasks facing the country. Development of all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community is rightly regarded in Aden as one of the factors, contributing to their successful fulfillment. This cooperation now embraces practically all the major branches of the national economy.

More than ten new factories and plants, [words indistinct] machines servicing stations, eight water supply dams have been built in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen with the help of Soviet specialists. They have also rendered assistance in the drilling of almost three hundred artesian wells.

The Soviet Union is rendering the republic assistance in such spheres as irrigation, fishing, agriculture, oil extraction, construction of civilian projects, such, for instance, as the medical [word indistinct] in Shaykl 'Uthman, the suburb of Aden.

Last May an agreement was signed in Aden on Soviet-South Yemenese cultural and scientific-technical cooperation, which porvides, specifically, for Soviet assistance to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the training of skilled personnel.

Deep-going progressive transformations in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the republic's consistent support of the liberation movements, condemnation of the splitting policy of Egypt, which is conducting separate negotiations with Israel, struggle for the just settlement of the Middle Eastern problem and for the guaranteeing of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, give rise to angry attacks on democratic Yemen of the forces of imperialism, Zionism (?and reaction).

As stressed by the newspaper ATH-THAWRI, unity of the freedom-loving people in the struggle against imperialism, strengthening of friendship ties with the countries of the socialist community, reliable allies of those that are fighting against imperialism oppression, racialism and Zionism, ensure the thwarting of their plans.

The people of Democratic Yemen, its vanguard--the National Front--are firmly resolved [to] go on advancing along the road of social renaissance, are exerting every effort to strengthen the country's independence and to further the progressive socio-economic transformations. This struggle is close and understandable to the Soviet people, who are ready to render their (?friend) [words indistinct] every necessary support.

The visit to the USSR of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, is regarded by the Soviet people as a new step towards the strengthening of friendly relations of cooperation between the two peoples and countries.

GREEK PRIME MINISTER'S WEST EUROPE TOUR REVIEWED

LD012148Y Moscow TASS in English 1936 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["In the Role of Solicitor"--TASS headline]

[Text] Bonn, February 1 TASS--The Greek prime minister, Konstandinos Karamanlis, completed today his one-week tour of the capitals of West European states. He visited London, Paris, Brussels and Bonn, had talks with leaders of the British, French, Belgian and West German governments. Special place was devoted to negotiations with leaders of the "Common Market" and of the military NATO bloc.

According to Western press reports, the Greek prime minister, contrary to the protests of the country's democratic forces, strove to secure from the "Inner Nine" the speedy admission of Greece into this exclusive grouping. However, as shown by the results of the negotiations, this process will be long and difficult. As stated by an official spokesman of the European Communities Commission, the "Inner Nine" do not wish to pay for the difficulties that will be entailed by the admission of Greece to the European Economic Community, since here economy lags considerably behind the economic levels of the "Inner Nine" countries.

Agreement has been reached on the continuation of the negotiations on the admission of Greece to the European Economic Community. The communique fixes the stages of these negotiations, during which the sides will discuss the most acute problems, including the terms of trade in manufactured goods, accession of Greece to the Customs Union of the European Economic Community, her participation in the European Coal and Steel Community. Agreement also has to be reached on the most "painful" problem, namely of trade in farm products, since the econmic circles of several countries of the "Inner Nine" particularly Italy and France, believe that access of Greek farm products to the markets of the European Economic Community will further aggravate the economic difficulties of these states.

An important place in the negotiations conducted by the Greek prime minister belongs to questions of deepening the cooperation of Greece with NATO. As stated by the NATO secretary general, Joseph Luns, he discussed during his meeting with Karamanlis the possibility of Greece rejoining the bloc's military organisation, from which the country withdrew in 1974. A tendency is being observed of late towards broader Greek military activity in NATO. Thus, a new agreement has been concluded on U.S. war bases in Greek territory, the Greek naval forces have taken part in the manoeuvres of the American Marines on the Peloponnesus Peninsula.

The democratic public circles of Greece regard the negotiations of Karamanlis on broader military cooperation with NATO as one more government's concession, made under the pressure of NATO political and military leaders, who are striving to strengthen the "southern flank" of the military alignment to the detriment of the national interests of Greece.

CYPRUS PRESIDENT TO FOLLOW MAKARIOS' 'NONALINED POLICY'

LD020700Y Moscow TASS in English 0606 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

["Spiros Kiprianou: "Cyprus Problem Awaits a Just Solution"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 2, TASS--The Cyprus Government will firmly and unswervingly follow the policy of non-alignment proclaimed by the President Makarios ever since the republic was formed, Spiros Kiprianou, the president of Cyprus, said in an interview with a PRAVDA correspondent in Nicosia.

We, President Kiprianou pointed out, firmly adhere to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of any country and, naturally, want it to be used with regard to Cyprus as well. The principles of a just and stable resolution of the Cyprus problem are set out in appropriate U.N. resolution, Kiprianou went on to say. Besides, there are certain principles to the implementation of which we attach much importance. These are the principles of the freedom of choice of residence, movement, and the right to own property for all citizens.

On the whole, the president summarized, a solution to the Cyprus problem must protect the rights and interests of the entire people of Cyprus and ensure the republic's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the policy of non-alignment.

Ever since our state gained independence, Cyprus' relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have been developing steadily, Spiros Kiprianou said. The USSR and other socialist states ensure a firm and constant support to Cyprus at the United Nations in the interests of the cause of freedom and justice. The Government of Cyprus, the president recalled, welcomed the Soviet Union's initiatives aimed at convening an international aspects of the problem.

Having emphasized that Cyprus continues to support all efforts and measures on strengthening detente, President Kiprianou condemned the plans for the production and deployment of new types of inhuman weapons of mass destruction--the neutron bomb, in the first place. The viewpoint of the Cyprus Government, he said, has always been negative with regard to the development and deployment of such weapons. The government invariably adheres to this position at the United Nations Organization.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

Arms for Somalia

LD020636Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Sergey Losev commentary]

[Excerpt] The 30 January statement by the Ethiopian leader brought some comment from the United States State Department. The Americans denied that Washington was coordinating plans to seize control over the Horn of Africa. A State Department spokesman said the United States' aim was to settle the war and not to interfere in the domestic affairs of either Ethiopia or Somalia. The other countries involved in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict are also making all sorts of denials nowadays. For example, Iran maintains that it has never supplied Somalia with any weapons, nor is it doing so now, it is claimed. But earlier, however, Teheran admitted that a consignment of Iranian small arms were sent to Mogadiscio, and the Pakistani leaders claim their material aid to Somalia is limited to the supplies of shoes, fabrics and tents.

However, despite these assurances, offensive arms continue to flow into Somalia. Just the other day three ships chartered by Saudi Arabia arrived in Somali ports with a cargo of weapons. And during the recent fighting near the cities of Harar and Jijiga the Ethiopian Armed Forces captured large quantities of American rifles, Italian-made tanks and mortars, antitank rifles and machineguns from other NATO countries. To whitewash these unseemly actions helping Somalia to continue her aggression, the Western press is stepping up a hostile campaign against Ethiopia, the Soviet Union and Cuba. Provocative fabrications are being circulated about the alleged involvement of Soviet ships and aircraft in the military operations. It is also claimed that Soviet military personnel is taking part in the hostilities. And President Siad Barre of Somalia told the ambassadors of the United States and other NATO powers that the Warsaw Treaty countries together with Ethiopia were allegedly preparing an invasion to occupy and destroy his country.

Meanwhile, no one threatens either Somali's territorial integrity or sovereignty, and the Somali leaders are well aware of that. The Soviet news agency TASS emphasised with full authority that all fabrications about this country's military involvement in the conflict are totally unfounded. Their aim is obvious: The attempts to distort the real state of affairs are being made to cover up the designs by some people in the West of their own intervention in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

The Soviet Union for its part has done everything possible to prevent this conflict from breaking out. That was precisely the aim of the Soviet and Cuban good offices. However, when the Somali leaders failed to heed these appeals and (?yielded) to chauvinistic expansionist moves, the Soviet Union sided with the victim of aggression. At the request of the Government of Ethiopia, the Soviet Union is giving her appropriate material and technical assistance to repulse aggression. This country has acted this way proceeding from the principles of its foreign policy. It has done so despite the (?effects) it might have and was followed by such unfriendly steps by the Somali leadership with regard to the Soviet Union itself as the move to cancel the Soviet-Somalia treaty of friendship and cooperation of 11 July 1974.

At present certain quarters of the United States which see Soviet intrigues everywhere claim that this country wants to protract the conflict to capture domination over the southern gates of the Red Sea. Both inside and outside Congress the opponents of relaxation are seeking to create the impression that the Soviet Union deliberately avoids cooperating with the United States in a constructive manner in achieving a peace settlement in the Horn of Africa. However, nothing can be farther from the truth, and the men in Washington are aware of that. The new seat of tension in Southeast Africa should be stamped out to prevent it from aggravating world tension as a whole again. Somali troops should be pulled out of Ethiopian territory immediately and without any conditions. Hostilities should be stopped. This is an indispensable prerequisite for a peace settlement.

'Secret' Accord; U.S. Denial

LD011846Y Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 1 TASS--The NATO countries and the reactionary Arab regimes are rendering broad support to the Somalian Army, are supplying it with arms necessary to expand the aggressive war against Ethiopia. This is irrefutably testified by prisoners and trophies taken during the fighting on the eastern front, says the statement issued by the national revolutionary operational command of Ethiopia.

During the recent hostilities in the area of Harar and Jijiga, the statement goes on, the Ethiopian Armed Forces captured large quantities of American rifles, partially shipped to Somalia from Pakistan, tanks and mortars of Italian make, mortars, and anti-tank rifles, machineguns and ammunition from the arsenals of NATO countries. These weapons leave no doubt whence the Somalian leaders replenish their arsenal. They prove that the NATO countries and the reactionary Arab regimes are taking part directly in the aggression unleashed by the Somalian leaders against Ethiopia.

The reactionary forces, which, backed by world imperialism, have launched an offensive on revolutionary Ethiopia, are now striving to expand the aggression, the operational command points out. Certain Western states are supplying modern weapons to Somalia either directly or through Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf states. Captured Somalian soldiers admit that the aggressive war in the Ogaden area is financed by NATO states and their henchmen in the Arab world.

These data, the statement notes, prove that the secret agreement recently concluded in Washington between the United States, Britain, France, Italy and the FRG, which has the purpose of smothering the Ethiopian revolution by supplying arms to the Somalian aggressors, is already being implemented. Using NATO arms, the Somalian troops, which have invaded Ethiopian territory, are destroying populated localities and killing peaceful civilians. The armed forces and people's militia detachments of Ethiopia, the operational command points out, will wage the just defensive war until the aggressive forces are completely expelled from Ethiopian soil. The only way to restore peace and ensure security in the Horn of Africa and in the Red Sea basin is to withdraw the Somalian troops fully and unconditionally from Ethiopian territory.

Washington, February 1 TASS--A spokesman of the U.S. State Department endeavoured at yesterday's press conference to "deny" U.S. involvement in the military support given to Somalia in the war against Ethiopia, involvement which was disclosed in the appeal to the nation by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia.

This "denial" sounded rather unconvincing. It is common knowledge that in mid-January an official U.S. spokesman said that the United States had in principle adopted a decision to deliver defensive arms to Somalia but did not explain what weapons could be regarded as defensive or offensive ones.

The State Department spokesman also asserted that the United States knew nothing about any deliveries of U.S. arms to Somalia from third countries. Facts proving such deliveries had repeatedly been confirmed both by Ethiopian official epresentatives and by the Western press.

Peaceful Settlement Urged

LD011425Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 28 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[Observer Oleg Anichkin international review: "Horn of Africa--Hotspot"]

[Text] The armed conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia has been continuing for more than 6 months, and still no prospect of a peace settlement is in sight in this region of the world, often called the Horn of Africa. On the contrary, the conflict is intensifying, and both sides are suffering great human and material losses. Despite this, certain imperialist and reactionary forces wish to internationalize it. Concern is also being aroused by the fact that the events in the Horn region have enabled the Somali leaders and those backing them to launch a wholly unsubstantiated anti-Soviet campaign.

What, then, is happening in the Horn of Africa? The Somali leaders have undertaken an overt expansionist action. Aggression has been committed against Ethiopia. On the pretext of supporting the so-called "Western Somali Liberation Front," which they themselves set up, regular Somali troops are waging an undeclared war on the territory of Ethiopia. More than enough evidence exists to indicate that chauvinist and expansionist sentiments have prevailed over commonsense in the Somali Government. These sentiments had long been fanned by imperialist forces. Somalia was being pushed all the time onto a path of pursuing an expansionist policy. As a result, Somalia intends to seize not only one-fifth of Ethiopian territory but also to devour the new sovereign state of the Republic of Djibouti, as well as part of Kenya, with the ultimate idea of creating a "greater Somalia."

In a situation where an armed conflict between two neighboring African states has begun to pose a threat to the security of not only the African Continent but also the whole world, a legitimate question arises: Whose interests do Somalia's actions meet and who is backing the leaders of this state? Imperialist forces are seriously alarmed by the growth in the rapid process of Africa's liberation from colonial rule; therefore they are seeking by all ways and means to create all possible difficulties for progressive African forces, kindling interstate conflicts in Africa, undermining the anti-imperialist unity of African states and doing everything to drive a wedge into their friendly and mutually advantageous relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

As a result, by playing on chauvinist and nationalist feelings, these forces succeeded in pushing the Somali leadership onto a path of aggression against Ethiopia, which is now living through a difficult moment in the completion of its revolution. Somalia's actions against Ethiopia are a gross violation of the UN and OAU charters. They contradict quite recent statements by the Somali leaders to the effect that "Somalia's policy is firmly based on the principles of peaceful coexistence." At the 31st UN General Assembly session Somalia voted to approve the resolution "on the conclusion of a world treaty on the nonuse of force in international relations," whose chief substance lies in the fact that all parties to it pledge not to use force in their relations with other states, particularly on territorial issues. However, all attempts to persuade the Somali leaders to cease aggressive actions against Ethiopia have been fruitless, and the OAU's efforts have failed too. A specially created OAU committee has done a great deal to find peaceful paths to a settlement, but Somalia's representatives refused to participate in the work of this committee and thereby ignored the basic principles of that organization and demonstrated their reluctance to strive for peace. In short, it has become clear to the world public who is the aggressor and who is the victim.

The situation in the Horn of Africa has now changed somewhat. The Somali leaders' blitzkrieg had not been crowned with success. Their offensive actions against Ethiopian territory has been halted.

The Mogadiscio leaders have resorted to slander by talking about Ethiopia's readiness to invade Somalia and about the Soviet Union's intention...to attack Somalia. Such an absurd statement was needed for just one purpose--to obtain support from the Western powers and to secure arms deliveries from them. These allegations proved sufficient for the Western powers to come to the assistance of the Somali regime. The United States and a number of other NATO countries have begun transferring weapons through third countries.

Peking has also become an accomplice in fanning the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. Soon after Somalia launched its offensive operations against Ethiopia a Chinese Government delegation arrived in Mogadiscio and had talks on giving all possible support to the Somali regime. China is constantly transferring arms of various kinds to Somalia. The U.S., West German and British press has attested to this. Peking has not officially denied these reports either.

Ethiopia has repeatedly proclaimed its desire to find a solution to the problem of relations with Somalia by peaceful means on the basis of the UN and OAU principles. Ethiopia lays down one condition for holding talks on a peaceful settlement--the immediate and urgent withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory.

As for the Soviet Union, its position is quite unambiguous and accords with the principles of international law. The Soviet Union advocates a peaceful settlement through talks between Somalia and Ethiopia based on the sides' respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and noninterference in internal affairs. Only in this way can an end to the dangerously explosive conflict in the Horn of Africa region be achieved.

'CHILEAN SOLDIERS' REPORTED IN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

LD011540Y Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

["Chilean Soldiers in Namibia"--TASS headline]

[Text] Luanda, February 1, TASS--TASS correspondents Valentin Reikerus and Vladimir Kudryavtsev report:

Soldiers of the Chilean fascist junta are taking part in combat operations on the side of RSA troops against SWAPO freedom fighters in Namibia. They are stationed at the RSA airbase at Ondangua in northern Namibia. From that base joint raids against SWAPO freedom fighters and peaceful Namibian villages are made by South African and Chilean military. This was stated today in an interview for the TASS correspondents by the executive secretary of the South-West Africa People's Organisation, Jesaja Njamu.

Pinochet's hirelings, he said, have been taking part in fighting against us for about half a year now. According to SWAPO figures, about a battalion of Chilean soldiers are at present stationed at the Ondangua airbase. Apart from engaging in combat operations against SWAPO, the Chilean servicemen are busy training Angolan splitter gangs of the UNITA.

Chilean military support for the RSA racists' illegal occupation of Namibia, the SWAPO representative stressed, is a new joint imperialist and fascist attack against our people fighting for freedom and independence. The Chilean fascist junta followed the criminal example of the Israeli Zionists and FRG neofascists. It gives open armed support to the South African troops conducting punitive operations against the patriotic forces.

All these actions, stated Njamu, are aimed at internationalizing the war in Namibia, at destabilizing the situation in that part of Africa and helping the racists of Pretoria to perpetuate the illegal occupation of Namibia.

We call on all the progressive forces of the world, the SWAPO representative stressed, to demonstrate their solidarity with us and give SWAPO effective support in its struggle for Namibia's freedom and independence, for the withdrawal of all the troops of the racist RSA and all foreign mercenaries from its territory.

PLANS FOR INCREASED UK-PRETORIA TRADE TIES REPORTED

LD011901Y Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] London, February 1 TASS--The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is to send a trade mission to the Republic of South Africa in March. One of the main objectives of its mission is to help restore Britain's traditional position as South Africa's leading supplier, said John Muir, chief executive of the chamber's African section.

Disregarding the demands of the African countries and the world public, British monopolies, encouraged by official London, are trying to make a deeper inroad into South Africa's economy, with their investments there already reaching 2,200 million pounds sterling. The British oil giants "Shell" and "British Petroleum" meet the requirements of the Republic of South Africa in oil products by almost 40 percent. These corporations plan to increase their capital investments in the Republic of South Africa by hundreds of millions of pounds sterling, according to the data of the British anti-apartheid movement.

Britain accounts for a fifth of foreign trade of the Republic of South Africa. Through South African subsidiaries of big British "Barclays Bank Ltd" and "Standard Bank Ltd" the Pretoria regime gets financial means, mainly spent for military purposes.

Exploitation of Africans' cheap labour brings huge profits to British monopolies. This is one of the reasons why Britain, with its allies in NATO, prevents at the United Nations in every way adoption of economic sanctions against the Pretoria regime. Consolidation of the racist regime also pursues the aim to preserve it as a bearer of political and strategic interests of the NATO military bloc in the south of Africa. It is not at all accidental that British companies also participate in military deals with the Republic of South Africa. According to the press, yet until recently military equipment to racists has been supplied by "Technical Support and Services," "Jersey Aviation," "Martin Baker," "British Leyland," "Marconi Instruments," "Racal Electronics" and other firms. This gave ground to the newspaper MORNING STAR to declare that Britain is an arsenal of apartheid.

U.S. BUSINESS LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA VIEWED

LD012136Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] According to reports from Washington, the U.S. State Department has given permission for the Cessna aircraft company to sell 50 transport aircraft to private citizens in the Republic of South Africa. Our commentator, Vsevolod Shishkovskiy, is at the microphone:

The State Department's decision to grant this permission is a crude violation of the embargo on the delivery of arms to the racist South African regime declared last November by the UN Security Council. This was stated in particular by a group of congressmen who, in a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Vance, warn of the danger of such a step. The congressmen stress that the same type aircraft are used by air forces of several Western states, and the South African authorities could easily use them to set up diversionary groups to act against detachments of the national liberation movement.

It is noteworthy that this is not even denied by the representatives of the Cessna company, who admit that their aircraft can easily be converted to purely military uses. If this company is only just beginning its contacts with the South African racists, then dozens of other U.S. companies and concerns specializing in arms production have long been their permanent partners. It is enough to say that last year alone the U.S. Department of Commerce issued licenses for the delivery of weapons and ammunition to Pretoria valued at $300 million.

Such actions by Washington, to put it mildly, are clearly at variance with statements by official representatives of the United States who, during the Security Council debate, came out in words in favor of the strict observance of the embargo on the delivery of arms to the racists. As far as the American military monopolies are concerned, they still behave as if this embargo is no concern of theirs at all. A statement by Henry Ford, chairman of the board of directors of the Ford Motor Company, is instructive in this respect. He visited Pretoria recently. U.S. firms, he stressed, do not intend to leave South Africa, and they hope for the development of fruitful cooperation. No less instructive is a statement by a representative of General Motors Corporation, which last year obtained over $200 million from the sales of its products to the South African racists: We have been in the Republic of South Africa for over half a century and do not intend to leave.

Providing the American monopolies with the opportunity to obtain superprofits--this is the main aim determining Washington's policy in the south of Africa. Therefore the United States and other Western powers have an interest in preserving the Pretoria regime as a bastion of imperialism and anticommunism on the continent.

ANGOLAN STATEMENT ACCUSES SOUTH AFRICA, ZAIRE

LD011612Y Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, February 1, TASS--The Defense Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola has condemned the new aggressive actions by the Republic of South Africa and Zaire against Angola.

The Zaire authorities and the South African racists, says the ministry's statement, not only drm and send into our country bands of puppets from the FNLA and UNITA groupings but also send their servicemen into the territory of Angola. These criminal acts of aggression are being carried out from the territory of Zaire and the territory of Namibia that is occupied by the South African racists.

As reported by the Defense Ministry, 23 instrusions into Angolan territory were recorded on Angola's borders with Zaire in the period from October 4, 1977 to January 13 this year. A sergenat from the Zairean Army was taken prisoner when one of such incursions was repelled. In the course of the latest armed provocations on January 12 and 13 Zairean troops entered the territory of Angola and attacked the Angolan villages of Namutenga and Salassamba.

Unceasing in the south of Angola are violations of the border by the armed forces of the racist Republic of South Africa, the ministry's statement goes on. In the period from August 6, 1977 to January 11, 1978 they perpetrated 14 aggressive acts against the People's Republic of Angola.

Additional Report

LD301636Y Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 30 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Rome, January 30, TASS--The Embassy of the People's Republic of Angola [PRA] has circulated a statement which says that the inhabitants of two Angolan villages, Namutenga and Luaukazombo in the north of the country, have been attacked by bandits from the splitting anti-popular grouping FNLA. The attack was launched from a military base in neighbouring Zaire.

The statement points out that despite Angola's intention to maintain friendly relations with all states, in particular the neighbour states, some of them stubbornly continue to serve the interests of imperialism by supporting and supplying bandits on their territory and engaging in subversion against progressive African regimes.

The embassy announced that some time ago the Government of the PRA arranged a meeting between its delegation and the Government of Zaire to normalize relations between the two countries. However, the Zairean side does not observe the agreements reached. The statement says in conclusion that the People's Republic of Angola is using all means available to protect its independence gained by blood and prolonged struggle for freedom.

ITEMS ON MALTA TALKS ON RHODESIA SETTLEMENT

Seen as 'Last Chance'

LD011707Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 5 LD

[Text] London, 30 January, TASS--Talks began in Malta today between UK Foreign Minister D. Owen and A. Young, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, and J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe, leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. On the agenda is the updated Anglo-American plan for a Rhodesia "settlement."

Aware that any resolution of the Rhodesia problem without the participation of the Patriotic Front will mean the continuation of the armed liberation struggle, the Western representatives are trying at the negotiating table to persuade the leaders of the front to end combat actions.

The Malta meeting is regarded as the "last chance" to save the Anglo-American plan, which provides for the transfer of power for a transition period before independence is received to a British resident commissioner and for the white minority's retention of key positions in the political and economic spheres.

Nkomo and Mugabe stated on the eve of the opening of the talks that they intend to seek a real transfer of power in the country to the African majority and the removal of the illegal Smith regime and of its military and administrative machinery.

Talks 'Deadlocked'

LD012100Y Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] London, February 1, TASS--The attempts of the Western powers to galvanize the earlier rejected Anglo-American plan for a (?settlement) in Rhodesia proved fruitless. Judging by press reports the Malta negotiations, which started this Monday between the foreign secretary of Great Britain, David Owen, Permanent Representative of the United States at the United Nations Andrew Young, on the one hand, and leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, on the other, are (?dead-locked). David Owen said that he would return to London today.

The meeting [word indistinct] shows that Britain and the United States were unable to propose anything new, compared to their previous plan, called upon to perpetuate the white minority superiority, that they tried again to convince the patriots to stop the armed struggle against the Smith clique.

The leaders of the Patriotic Front, according to the available reports, confirmed their resolute objection to the transfer of power in the country for the transitional period to the British Commissioner-Resident Carver, known for his disgraceful role in the ruthless suppression of the Mau-Mau uprising in Kenya. They demanded the liquidation of the military-punitive apparatus of the racialists prior to the holding of general elections.

They also moved to create a mechanism which would ensure the granting of actual power to the African majority of the country. Joshua Nkomo said that if the Western powers intended to continue serious negotiations, they would be resumed.

In the meantime, negotiations are to be resumed today in Salisbury between the head of the Rhodesian regime Ian Smith and the African puppets Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau. After bickering for a while, Bishop Muzorewa decided to take part in them again. The purpose of the racialists at these negotiations is to speed up the conclusion (?of a) deal with the African collaborationists, to bar from the negotiations and, subsequently, from the government of the country the only lawful representative of the Zimbabwe people--the Patriotic Front.

Resolve of 'Patriots'

LD021248Y Moscow TASS in English 1231 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

["Without Specific Results"--TASS headline]

[Text] London, February 2, TASS--David Owen, Britain's foreign secretary, and Andrew Young, U.S. permament representative at U.N., ended their talks in Malta with Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front.

Speaking at a press conference after the meeting, the leaders of the front said that no specific agreement had been reached on separate items of the Anglo-American plan for a "settlement" in Rhodesia. The meeting only helped to clarify the positions of the two sides. The talks would be continued; however, no date or venue had been agreed.

The leaders of the front emphasized the resolve of the Zimbabwe patriots to step up the armed liberation struggle against the illegal Rhodesian regime.

The participants in the Malta meeting, parallel with the Anglo-American plan, discussed proposals advanced by the patriotic front and designed to transfer power in the country to genuine representatives of the African majority. For this purpose and to prepare for general elections, the front proposed that a special representative body, a governing council, be set up.

Andrew Young, the U.S. permanent representative at U.N., explained after the talks the causes which had impelled the West of late to take a number of initiatives for a "settlement" in the south of Africa. He said that Western Europe and the United States were getting the biggest part of needed mineral raw materials from the region. A war in the south of Africa would create a direct threat to supplies of these raw materials.

BURMA'S EXAMPLE OF RESISTING CAPITALIST INTERFERENCE PRAISED

BK0102202Y Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1430 GMT 30 Jan 78 BK

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: The meeting of the consortium of countries providing aid to Burma was held in Paris. It was attended by Planning and Finance Minister of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma U Tun Tin. Our observer comments on the meeting:

Some developing countries depend on foreign aid especially for technology and modern machinery. Foreign aid always plays a significant role in their national economic development programs because the inherent strength of the developing countries, which were once colonies, is insufficient.

To successfully implement economic development programs, natural resources must be more fully utilized. Consequently, the developing countries require large investments and to gain them, they must expand exports and secure foreign loans. This measure can be beneficial provided that certain rules are applied.

The Soviet Union has had a similar experience. The USSR, wishing to quickly reconstruct its war-torn economy, at one time (?tried to attract) capitalist countries so that they could participate in the construction of new factories and workshops. It obtained contracts with capitalist companies to supply modern machinery and in return supplied some of the finished goods manufactured in those factories to those countries.

Although the Soviet Union pursued this kind of economic policy, it did not allow the capitalist companies to freely exploit it or infringe upon its sovereignty. Thakin Chit Maung, a Burmese political leader, wrote that the Soviet Union, which was then a very young nation, did not surrender to the pressure of the capitalist countries, with which it had relations. The Soviet Union maintained its sovereignty and socialist principles. Thakin Chit Maung called on the developing countries marching toward socialism to study this lesson earnestly.

It is believed that this remark is the result of an attempt by some Western countries which control the World Bank's programs to exploit Burma's difficulties for their gain. They demand that Burma, in order to get financial assistance from the World Bank, scale down the state's role in the economic sector, grant a freer hand to private capital, change the exchange rate of Burmese currency, and so forth.

Burma considered these World Bank demands as interference in its internal affairs. General Secretary of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Gen San Yu said in his report to the Third Congress of the BSPP that it is necessary to secure technical assistance and machinery from abroad and work in cooperation with other countries in programs of mutual benefit, provided that they do not endanger socialism.

The Third Congress of the BSPP in 1977 adopted a policy which allows Burma to further expand its economic relations with all countries, based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. The main objective of such cooperation is to improve the country's economy without hampering its socialist goal.

OPPOSITION GROWING IN S. KOREA TO PAK CHONG-HUI

LD012121Y Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, February 1 TASS--Resistance to the anti-popular regime of Pak Chong-hui, puppet dictator, is mounting in South Korea. According to reports, a constitutent meeting of the council of the struggle for release of political prisoners was held in Seoul. It was attended by political leaders who are in opposition to the Seoul regime, by clergymen, journalists, students.

The decision that was adopted says that the council will spread the struggle for immediate release from South Korean prisons of the patriots who come out in defence of justice and political freedoms that were taken from the people by the present dictator.

After the constitution imposed by Pak Chong-hui and the martial law were introduced in 1972, the South Korean CIA started wholesale reprisals against those who do not share official views. According to the data of foreign news agencies, over 60 thousand people were thrown over five years into prisons on accusation of sympathising with ideas of communism. Most of them are being kept in horrible conditions in the jails of Seoul counterintelligence.

U.S.-KOREA-JAPAN PARTNERSHIP 'SERIOUS THREAT' TO PEACE

LD011051Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 29 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[D. Rozanov article: "Military Triangle"]

[Text] The United States is increasingly drawing Japan and South Korea into the orbit of its policy in the Pacific Ocean. Proof of this was the Japanese-American conference in Honolulu (Hawaii) at which the U.S. delegation refuted statements which had appeared at the end of last year concerning possible reductions in the number of marines on Okinawa and reports that the United States does not plan to withdraw its forces from South Korea in the next few years.

On the contrary, operating within the framework of the so-called security treaty, the Pentagon strategists are seeking to increase Japanese military activity. Press reports state that the Pentagon is demanding a further buildup of Japan's Navy and Air Force and an increase in appropriations for the upkeep of American military bases on its territory, and is also speeding up (with the Japanese side's consent) planning for joint military operations.

The Pentagon assigns an equally important role to South Korea. Recently the press reported plans to create a so-called joint American-South Korean command. Referring to a statement by General J. Vessey, commander of American Forces in South Korea, the Japanese paper AKAHATA noted that the creation of a joint command will enable the United States to transfer units to the Korean Peninsula at any moment. Some commentators note, moreover, that the Pentagon's plans suit dictator Pak Chong-hui who regards them as support for his regime.

The U.S. desire to strengthen the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military axis and also to expand and strengthen its military bases on the islands of Oceania poses a serious threat to peace and security.

SOVIET OF NATIONALITIES CHAIRMAN RECEIVES JAPANESE GROUP

LD311500Y Moscow TASS in English 1425 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 31, TASS--Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, one of the chambers of the Soviet parliament, received today a joint delegation of the leaders of Japanese organisations that are friendly towards the USSR and are taking part in the national committee for the celebation in Japan of the sixtieth anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The delegation is headed by M. Matsui, chairman of the board of the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

RASHIDOV RECEIVES MONGOLIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN TASHKENT

LD311139Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 18 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[Text] UZTAG--Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committe Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee, on 17 January received Tseveeniy Tseren-Ochir, Mongolian consul general in Tashkent.

T. Tseren-Ochir was accompanied by Consul Sosorbaramyn Bud and Vice Consul Damayn Natsag of the Consulate General.

In a friendly talk, Sh. R. Rashidov noted the great significance of the constantly growing ties and fraternal cooperation between the Soviet Union and Mongolia, which accord with the interests of the peoples of both countries and the entire socialist community and contribute to the consolidation of peace throughout the world. The development of these ties is served by the creation of a Mongolian Consulate General in Tashkent. Tseveeniy Tseren-Ochir was acquainted with the tasks which are being implemented by the party organization and working people of the republic in the third, decisive year of the 5-year plan.

On behalf of the Mongolian people and Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, first secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, personally, the first consul warmly congratulated Sh. R. Rashidov and all the working people of Uzbekistan on the successful fulfillment of the high socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 60th anniversary of Great October and described the achievements of the working people of Mongolia in socialist building.

Those taking part in the talks included M.T. Turgunov, deputy chairman of the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers and Uzbek foreign minister, and other officials.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

RSFSR REPORTS ON FULFILLMENT OF 1977 STATE PLAN

LD020240Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2330 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] The RSFSR Central Statistical Administration has published a report on the republic's fulfillment of the 1977 state plan.

National income increased by 3.5 percent. RSFSR industrial output rose by over 5 percent. Four-fifths of the growth in output was obtained from increased productivity. The republic gathered in a harvest of over 108.5 million tons of grain. Last year real per capita income in the RSFSR rose by 3.5 percent. A total of almost 61.5 million square meters of housing was constructed.

TADZHIKISTAN OVER FULFILLS 1977 ECONOMIC PLAN

LD311125Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

[Summary] Results of fulfillment of the state plan for the development of Tadzhikistan's national economy last year were published today: R46.8 million worth of above-plan output has been marketed. The annual growth amounted to 5.4 percent, more than envisaged in the plan. Agricultural workers have overfulfilled the tasks for selling main types of agricultural produce to the state. The annual plan for marketing industrial output and for production of a majority of the most important types of goods was overfulfilled last year.

NEED FOR PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY IN 1978 STRESSED

LD311405Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "For Production--a Precise Rhythm"]

[Excerpts] The first month of the 3d year of the 5-year plan is ending. It has been marked by great political and labor enthusiasm generated by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum, by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum and by the letter of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee "on mounting socialst competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1978 plan and on stepping up the struggle to increase production efficiency and work quality." At this time new stepped up pledges are being adopted at plants, factories and construction sites, and on kolkhozes and sovkhozes; the Soviet people are striving to immediately back up these pledges with shock labor.

The growth rates that have been planned are perfectly realistic. At the same time, certain leaders who have not managed to prepare properly to solve the heightened tasks are going for targets that have been set too low, thus delaying the initial sprint. For instance, in the first quarter of the year the Kirgizelektrodvigatel plant in Frunze intends to work at last year's level, thus dooming itself in advance to a year-end situation which will mean "all hands to the pumps." Such a short-sighted policy, which is very detrimental to the national economy, should be resolutely abandoned. Only a smooth and even production load each month provides an opportunity to organize matters scientifically and to make more effective use of fixed capital and to achieve a high level of quality.

Under the conditions of our multisector economy, where each link insures the reliability of the whole chain, the mutual responsibility of subcontractors is increasing considerably. The precise fulfillment of contractual obligations from the very first days of the year and a steady working rhythm--that is the reliable guarantee for the joint attainment of high final results. Meanwhile, PRAVDA is receiving alarming indications that certain suppliers are violating plan discipline. Thus, a telegram from Almetyevisk reports that during the first half of the month the collective of Chelyabinskaya Oblast's Katav Ivanovsk cement plant has supplied construction workers at the oil and gas fields of Tataria, Udmurtia and Orenburgskaya Oblast only 1,000 tons of their product, whereas the monthly plan calls for more than 12,000 tons.

Such facts require on-the-spot intervention and the immediate adoption of the necessary measures. Workers of sector ministries and of the USSR Gossnab organs are called upon to constantly monitor the delivery deadlines for materials, components and machines over the entire products list, not to disregard a single instance of failure to meet orders, and to make the culprit strictly answerable. It ought to be borne in mind that the degree of rhythm now has a direct influence on the incentive funds of labor collectives and on the size of the bonuses of enterprises managers and specialists. Quarterly bonuses will only be paid to them in full if the plant has coped with the established indicators both in terms of volume and in accordance with the products list each month. This procedure must be strictly observed.

To achieve a precise rhythm and to successfully fulfill the plans and pledges, it is important to work without any laggards from the very first days of the year. It is precisely toward this that the efforts of many collectives in various sectors of industry are now directed. The goal is being successfully achieved by those plants where maximum use is being made of equipment; where new, highly productive equipment is being introduced systematically; where technological discipline is observed; and where each minute of work is cherished. That is how, for instance, people of Rostovskaya Oblast are seeking to organize matters, where the movement with the motto "Not a single laggard alongside!" has assumed a mass scale. The people of Rostovskaya Oblast are setting themselves the task of having neither laggard enterprises nor laggard teams, sectors and shops. May the ranks of the followers of this initiative swell!

The labor rhythm of the country depends large on the operational efficiency of the planning and economic administrations of the ministries and of all-union industrial associations. They are called upon to complete the official registration of orders and economic contracts more rapidly, and to examine and convey to enterprises the approved counterplans for the year. In so doing it is important that the production targets should be balanced against material resources.

Now that the month is drawing to an end it is essential to carefully analyze the results of the first weeks of work. The correct action is being taken in those places where this question is being submitted for examination at party and worker meetings. A businesslike and self-critical analysis makes it possible to bring new reserves to light, to generalize advanced experience and it helps everyone to determine his personal contribution to the 5-year plan better and to comprehend his responsibility for the common cause.

Achieving a precise rhythm and high production rates means insuring the successful fulfillment of the plans of the shock year of the 5-year plan and the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

COSMONAUTS CONTINUE WORK WITH PROGRESS-1, EARTH OBSERVATIONS

LD011430Y Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 1 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Flight control centre, February 1, TASS--The crew of the orbital manned complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Progress-1 today is completing work to unload the transport ship.

Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko are transferring to the transport ship spent equipment of the life supporting system: regenerators, filters, empty food and water containers. All the work is conducted by the cosmonauts in accordance with the technological programme of transferring and arranging freight. The medical equipment, photo and cinema film and foodstuffs brought to the station by the cosmonauts are being put in their designed storage places.

Freight handling work is being combined by the crew with regular observations of the earth's surface. In particular, the cosmonauts are determining and specifying sea currents and pollution of the world ocean's surface, studying the shelf of the seas bordering on the USSR.

According to data of telemetric information and exports by the crew, the onboard systems of the manned complex are functioning normally. Yuriy Romananko and Georgiy Grechko are in a good state of health and feel well.

BRIEFS

ALL-UNION CONFERENCE IN VLADIVOSTOK--The second all-union conference on man's adaptation to various geographic, weather and production conditions will open in Vladivostok tomorrow. The conference is organized by the USSR Ministry of Health, the Siberian affiliate of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences and the Far Eastern Scientific Center of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Leading scientists from all parts of the country who are engaged in the study and solution of the adaptation problems have arrived in Vladivostok. [Text] [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 23 Jan 78 OW]

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